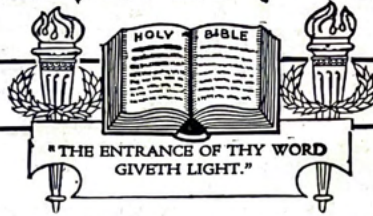


Grades

The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

A Journal Representing



Churches of Christ

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

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

VOL. XLVII, No. 16

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 1944

OUT OF THE DARK

A SMALL leaden communion token fell, with a dull clank, among the others, on the plate; but when the emblems were served, the young man who had dropped it there did not partake.

The token had not been won lightly, for the Seceder church did not allow anyone to partake of the Lord's Supper unless he could satisfy the elders of his worthiness to do so. In this case the tall, fresh-complexioned young man, with broad forehead, deep-set earnest eyes, Roman nose, strong mouth and chin, was unable to produce any letter of commendation from his home church, at Ahorey, North Ireland. The Seceder elders, taking no chances in a wicked world, informed him that he must appear before the session for examination. Nor had this young man, Alexander Campbell, come to the Lord's Table with other than a devout spirit of worship and a strong sense of duty. Although there were great questions in his mind as to whether some of the doctrines and practices of the Seceders had sufficient scriptural warrant to substantiate their claim as the true church of Christ. His experience in shipwreck, the time spent upon the Isle of Islay and his association with men of independent thought, such as the Congregational preacher, Mr. Ewing, had all combined to make him search the scriptures as to the true church of the living God. So concerned was he in mind over this matter that he waited until the last of about eight hundred people had gone to the table to receive the bread and the wine.

Virtually, the falling of the token upon the plate rang the knell of his active association with the Seceders. Had there been discerning ears to hear they would have recognised a ring of challenge to the religious world. This was in 1809. His youthfulness prevented him from expressing his views, but he was still, as it were, in some dimly lit cavern, but facing the bright light of day. Or to use a picturesque illustration of his own which he used concerning progressive revelation, he was in the starlight, and was soon to pass through the moonlight to the bright dawn of day.

On his arrival in America he was delighted to find that his father had been thinking along

W. J. Thomson of South Australia shows how Alexander Campbell took a step toward the light of truth

similar lines. The father, influenced by the freedom of this new country, envisaged it as a grand seed-bed for the planting of truth and thus for breaking down the sectarian bitterness which was so rife. The son had been influenced by his association in Glasgow with those who, through many years, had been groping their way out of the darkness of religious movements which carried with them many unscriptural practices and much sectarian bitterness. But both of these great men were to learn that to propound a basis of Christian unity, however simple and scriptural, was vastly different from making blind eyes to see or those who, by their devotedness to a religious sect, preferred to remain blind-fold.

ALTHOUGH the matter of immersion had been a rife question among the churches in Glasgow, it had failed to engage the attention of the young Alexander. It was not until he discussed the proofs of the "Declaration and Address" with a Presbyterian minister, a Mr. Riddle (and the latter pointed out that the third proposition would demand that those who accepted it would have to become Baptists, as there was not one scriptural warrant for infant sprinkling in the whole Bible) that he gave any thought to the matter.

Mr. Riddle's assertion confounded him. He sent for all the books and treatises he could get in support of infant sprinkling, with the inevitable result that he became disgusted with the assumptions and fallacious claims of the paedobaptists, and turned to his Greek Testament. Now any who have read the life, or some of the writings of A. Campbell, cannot but be impressed with the intellectual proportions of this man. But in the words of W. T. Moore, "such is the power of education, the force of early convictions, and the great proneness in the human mind to disparage positive institutions where there is already a consciousness of the substance of religion, that these honest, earnest and uncom-

promising men stumbled along at the step which their principles clearly required them to take and which would at once sever them forever from the great family of paedobaptists." And thus it was almost three years from the return of the communion token to his immersion in June, 1812.

WHEN Thomas Campbell emphasised that, "where the scriptures speak, we speak; and where the scriptures are silent we are silent" in that little meeting in the house of Abraham Altars between Mt. Pleasant and Washington, it was pointed out that "If we adopt that as a basis, then there is an end of infant baptism. Upon this Thomas Acheson, a man of warm impulses, rose and, advancing a short distance, greatly excited, exclaimed, laying his hand upon his heart, 'I hope I may never see the day when my heart will renounce that blessed saying of the scripture, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven."' Upon saying this he was so much affected that he burst into tears. James Foster pointed out that there was no mention of infant sprinkling in the text quoted." Such then is the power of tradition that scripture is misapplied, and the experience of Alexander Campbell or Thomas Acheson is repeated to-day, as every preacher of the churches of Christ can testify. As Dr. Richardson shows in his memoirs of Alexander Campbell, the Bible, which set Luther free, was itself chained in the cloister at Erfurth. In like manner each religious party seeks to secure the Bible within its own sectarian cell, not by a chain, but by spiritual fetters of partisan spirit. That the Bible was released by the reformers was of little value to free the world from this sectarianism whilst people were prepared to take just what portions—and how—were meted out to them. The Campbells struggled out of a system that was hardly removed in freedom and liberty of thought from that found by earlier reformers. If there be more light ahead, let us make toward it, and take our brethren along with us; but for the sake of any kind of peace or unity, we must reject the proffered arm if it means recession into the shadows from which the restorationists came.

Victorians in Conference

With the co-operation of R. T. Pittman, B.A., we set out the decisions and proceedings of an interesting conference under the presidential oversight of R. H. L. Sparks.

At the opening session of general conference on Thursday evening, a novel feature was introduced with success. A panel of Youth Department representatives presented facts from the report of the department in the form of a "brains trust" discussion. The proposition argued was: "That youth movements are dangerous." The trend of thought was that, in a sense, they are dangerous, but with proper leadership they became a venture well worth while. Incidentally, a plea was made for a fuller realisation by the brotherhood of the need for expansion in youth work, and a desire expressed that the organiser be freed from routine work which occupies much of his time. B. F. Huntsman later moved the adoption of the report, and covered in his speech phases of youth work additional to those mentioned in the discussion. In seconding the motion, F. Lee paid a tribute to W. R. Hibbert as youth organiser.

Friday morning delegates gathered to attend to the business arising from various phases of conference work. The Executive Committee's report was introduced first, and it presented a review of many activities that are being maintained on behalf of the churches. Referring to the Council of Churches, S. Neighbour spoke of an effort being made to secure a broadcasting licence for Protestant churches. It seems that the commercial stations lack sympathy for religious broadcasts, therefore Victorian churches ought to foster a movement to secure an independent licence. Mr. Weir pointed out that the N.S.W. churches use 900 hours each year for religious broadcasts over their station 2CH.

Conference agreed unanimously to support the activities of the committee seeking to foster closer co-operation and fellowship with Baptists.

Delegates applauded the resolution to send fraternal greetings to all the churches of Christ chaplains serving in the Forces. The Chaplain-General urged that, when the men serving as chaplains return to their churches, they be given every opportunity to apply their experiences to the problems arising in the post-war period.

Mrs. Waterman, speaking on the work of the United Churches' Hostel, discussed the difficulties of the women, who, at considerable sacrifice, do a great service. "I appeal to the men," Mrs. Waterman said in concluding her remarks, "not to complain if wives are home late after helping at the hostel."

Speaking on the Home Mission Committee's report, J. McG. Abercrombie said that the committee was giving assistance to home missionaries so that they could provide for old age; this was being done through the Preachers' Provident Fund. The local church and the committee were assisting the men to pay adequate sums into the fund.

R. L. Williams, urging the need of giving greater emphasis to evangelism, said: "Let us find a young man who could be trained as an evangelist, and be ready to spend home mission funds on a special course of training to fit him for the special needs of the day."

The following resolutions were next presented and accepted:

"That in Section 12 (a) Home Missionary Department, line 3, the number six be amended to read nine."

"That the following addition be made to section 12 of the constitution: 12. (i.) *Aborigines' Mission Department.*—This department shall

be controlled by a committee to consist of seven members; five of whom shall be appointed by conference and two by the women's conference, and shall be entrusted with the work among the aborigines and half-castes of Australia in collaboration with the Federal Aborigines' Mission Board; four to form a quorum."

"That this conference commissions the Conference Executive Committee to appoint a committee:

"i. To investigate the disabilities peculiar to a preacher's occupation, such as inability to make adequate provision for sickness, unemployment, accident or old age, and their relationship to contracts between churches and preachers;

"ii. To consider a contributory system in which all churches and preachers be urged to participate in order to provide—(a) for an allowance to all preachers on retirement according to the length of service to the churches; (b) for a regulated payment for preachers during unemployment."

During this session F. A. Kemp, a pioneer member of Swanston-st., was present. Our brother is 96 years, and has been associated with churches of Christ in Melbourne from the earliest times. H. Swain, who was perhaps the oldest to take an active part in the debates, manifested a keen interest in the work of the churches.

After happy fellowship around the lunch table on Friday, the president, R. H. L. Sparks, congratulated S. R. Baker on his work as secretary of the Victorian branch of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and C. G. Cole on his appointment as secretary of the Sudan Mission. These brethren replied in appropriate words, and asked for the support of churches for the causes they represented.

In his presidential address, R. H. L. Sparks centred his thought on the words of Paul concerning the "power of his resurrection" and "the fellowship of his sufferings (Phil. 3: 10). Paul entered into a very definite and real experience with Christ, and found the answer of God to the two great needs of humanity—forgiveness of sins and life abundant. It is for us to-day, as we pass through the tragic period of war, to make the experience of Paul our own. "Victory through the living Christ" is the message for the world.

It was pleasing to note the increase in the audience which, by afternoon, had filled the Lygon-st. chapel. R. L. Williams presented the Foreign Mission Committee's report on behalf of the committee, in the absence of the secretary, J. E. Allan, who had suffered a sad bereavement just prior to conference. L. Gole, in seconding the report, spoke of the splendid service of D. E. Pittman, who has been treasurer for twelve years.

H. H. Strutton, pioneer missionary of the Baramati field, told of his two months' journey from India to Melbourne. He mentioned that the health of Indians had improved, Bombay had advanced, and people were more friendly toward Britain.

Reg. Enniss was applauded when he announced that, from the end of May, interest on all loans on church buildings would be reduced from 5 per cent. to 3 per cent. This would involve the Properties Corporation in extra expense. Mr. Enniss appealed to delegates to secure support of churches in this effort to help weaker causes.

Dr. R. Wilson Macaulay, a representative of the Victorian Regional Committee of the World Council of Churches, was introduced by L. E. Snow. Dr. Macaulay outlined the work of a world conference of church leaders at Princeton, U.S.A. "To avoid another world

war, it is necessary for Christian principles to be applied to national affairs," he said. During an interview with the Australian Prime Minister, the findings of the conference were outlined. In reply Mr. Curtin said, "What you want us to do is to put the Christian faith into the peace treaty." "Yes," replied Dr. Macaulay, "but not sectarian teachings; only the truths taught by Christ."

At a later stage of conference this resolution was carried:—"That this conference expresses its deep appreciation to Dr. Macaulay for his able presentation of the findings of the Princeton Conference, and that we pledge our utmost support to the principles as laid down by the conference. That we forward this motion to the departments of the Prime Minister of Australia and the Premier of Victoria."

HOME MISSIONARY DEMONSTRATION

Mrs. Waterman brought greetings from the Women's Conference, and presented the sum of £565/15/1 from the Women's Mission Bands to Home Missions, Foreign Missions and the College of the Bible.

J. Holloway introduced the offering, and the sum of £158/10/- was received in cash and promises.

E. L. Williams, M.A., was introduced as the incoming president of conference. After a brief response Mr. Williams gave an address upon the subject, "Except the Lord Build." Man cannot defy the principles of God's universe without suffering disaster. This applies in the moral and spiritual spheres as well as in the natural. The foundation of morality is religion, and the foundations of life are moral and spiritual. The world to-day is indifferent to the great realities of God, sin and the Christ. The task of the church is to bring the world to a recognition of these great realities. Christianity is realism, applying to the whole of life and in every realm. The last word is with God, and the ultimate victory of truth, goodness and love is assured. Evangelism is the declaration of the whole counsel of God, backed up by a consistent life and passion for the saving of the world. Only a united church is adequate to the presentation of the evangel.

During the discussion on the report of the Properties Corporation, on Saturday morning, J. A. Wilkie asked whether a church could withdraw its property from the Properties Corporation, and transfer it to other trustees. Mr. Enniss replied, "Yes! with the approval of conference, such a withdrawal and transfer may be made."

One of the finest debates of conference occurred during the presentation of the Christian Union Committee's report. Many took part in an interesting discussion in which several viewpoints were set forth in a frank and kindly manner. G. Jackel told of an interesting union movement among churchmen in Wangaratta.

After lunch A. E. Kemp, chairman of directors of The Austral Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., announced that D. E. Pittman had completed 50 years of service with the company. Conference recorded its appreciation of Mr. Pittman's faithful services.

Considerable interest was shown in the work of the Literature Committee. It was urged that literature cabinets be kept in good order. One delegate offered to pay the cost of publication of a tract setting out New Testament truths and suitable for general distribution. Contributors were asked to send manuscripts to secretary of Literature Committee. It was announced that T. H. Scambler had written a book entitled "Sermon Construction."

W. Graham introduced the Social Service Committee's report and congratulated W. H. Clay upon the long years of effective service. Mr. Clay spoke of the difficulties of securing help for the home, and praised the work of Mrs. Ross and her staff.

(Continued on page 185)

Western Australian Conference

Record congregations enjoyed successful sessions. Gordon A. Ewers writes optimistically of the work in his State.

UNDER the able presidency of Chas. H. Hunt, the 47th annual conference, held in Lake-st. chapel, from April 4-9, proved an outstanding success, and was enjoyed by record congregations.

The opening night, Tuesday, was devoted largely to a discussion of the Executive and Home Mission Committees' reports. An application from the Nedlands church for affiliation was granted.

A successful women's conference on the Wednesday was followed by a crowded meeting in the evening.

The special session for preachers was held on Thursday afternoon. G. Tulloch, of the Perth Presbyterian church, spoke. In the evening a splendid gathering taxed the capacity of the building at the overseas mission assembly. An arresting message on "global strategy" was given by A. Anderson, of South Australia, and a young people's item was enjoyed also.

On Good Friday morning, an inspiring devotional convention was held. Messages on the central place of the cross were given by E. R. Sherman and P. R. Thickins. The choir, under the baton of A. B. Povey, with C. Cook as organist, rendered several anthems.

Friday afternoon saw the completion of the business on hand, and stirring challenges from the home land, the lands beyond, our colored people, and youth were delivered. A greeting from Chaplain R. Hilford stirred those present, and strengthened the determination of the churches to keep in touch with the members of the Forces.

In the evening the home mission rally fulfilled the promise of the preceding meetings. A magnificent address from the incoming president, Mr. Les. Peacock, was delivered to a record congregation.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CONFERENCE

Executive

A buoyant financial position augurs well for progressive work in the future.

Total receipts by the Women's Auxiliary amounted to £761/1/11.

The decisions which prompt the early holding of a Federal conference received enthusiastic support.

Home Missions

Harvey and Inglewood churches are now self-supporting.

The Eastern wheatbelt work has become self-governing.

Favorable progress is being made by several small country and suburban causes which have been established.

Broadcast evangelism has grown rapidly during the year, and larger use of the radio is planned for the future.

Overseas Missions

The presence of A. Anderson, from South Australia, and his challenge on Friday afternoon were greatly appreciated.

Both State and Federal financial statements show the attainment of unprecedented peaks of giving.

Our Young People

The introduction of a house system in the Bible schools and the holding of several camps during the year have been highly successful towards increasing attendances.

The stirring challenge of C. R. Burdeu on Friday afternoon, and the youth conference on the Saturday afternoon, were very helpful sessions.

The Young People's Department plans big things at Waterman's Bay for future camps, and is acquiring property to that end.

Other Items

It was a pleasure to have Miss E. Roxburgh, of the Norseman Aborigine Mission, at the conference.

Church Building Extension Committee reports a good financial position with a capital of £3121/10/6 after a gift of £500 towards the brotherhood centre.

Christian Endeavor, Social Service and Literary Department all report progress during 1943.

The appointment has been made of a conference custodian to file and preserve brotherhood records and documents.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Conference Executive.—Les Peacock (President); T. Bamford, of Harvey (President-elect); A. M. Bell (Secretary); E. F. Black (Assistant Secretary); A. D. Pyne (Treasurer).

Home Missionary Committee.—J. S. Bridge, V. Cartwright, G. A. Ewers, H. Gray, J. W. Gordon, A. A. McRoberts, J. Rhodes, A. Ware, H. J. Yelland, Mrs. Lucraft, Mrs. Smillie, together with conference officers.

Foreign Missionary Committee.—J. W. Althorpe, A. M. Bell, R. J. Duckett, F. D. Jones, R. McLaren, J. Wiltshire, Mrs. P. R. Thickins, Mrs. J. Althorpe, Mrs. Carpenter.

Bible Schools and Young People's Committee.—C. R. Burdeu, G. A. Ewers, I. W. Nixon, D. P. Pallot, J. Rhodes, H. E. R. Steele, C. F. W. Smith, P. R. Thickins, Miss A. An-

derson, Mrs. Digwood, Mrs. R. Pallot, Miss G. Wells.

Church Building Extension Committee.—J. J. Collingwood, E. R. Berry, W. S. Bown, A. C. Olds, W. H. White, W. J. Yeomans.

Social Service Committee.—J. J. Collingwood, J. Corbett, H. Gray, C. Grist, A. T. Thomas, J. Wiltshire, A. Marshall, and five from Women's Conference.

Christian Endeavor Committee.—J. Corbett, A. A. McRoberts, I. W. Nixon, Miss A. Alexander, Miss M. Hill, Miss M. Hollier, Miss G. Wells.

College and Training Committee.—R. Raymond, J. Wiltshire.

RESOLUTIONS

Amongst others, the following resolutions were unanimously passed:—

"That this conference of churches of Christ, W.A., believing the drink traffic to be an enemy of national life, pledges its co-operation to such Christian organisations as are striving for its abolition."

"That, as a conference, we regret the common tendency on the part of public institutions to disregard the sacred purpose of the Lord's day, and that we, as churches of Christ, fervently address ourselves to the task of recovering for the people this inestimable gift."

"That this conference registers its opposition to all forms of gambling. This evil, which is receiving governmental and public patronage under the title of 'charities,' we believe, is a menace to the morality of our boys, girls and young people. Accordingly, we ask church members not only to refrain from participation in this thing, but to protest against its practice on every occasion."

Western Women

C. H. Hunt records the proceedings of the Western Australian Women's Auxiliary Conference.

THE women of the Western State met in the Lake-st., Perth, chapel for their 39th annual conference, on April 5, 1944.

Mrs. J. A. Bridge presided over the gathering, which was well up to the average, and equally helpful. The morning devotions were led by Mrs. J. K. Robinson, who has returned to this State enriched by her ministry in New Zealand. Mrs. T. Smillie assisted at the organ, and Mesdames Hicks and Thickins rendered a duet.

The obituary superintendent (Mrs. P. Jefferies) reported the death of twelve sisters in various churches, and made appropriate references. Mrs. Cosh feelingly sang a solo.

During the morning reports were presented by Mrs. Mercer (Isolated), Mrs. Moyle (Dorcas), Mrs. Hood (Prayer), Mrs. F. D. Pollard (Executive), Mrs. W. J. Beck (Finance), Mrs. Digwood (Girls' Club).

Reserve Fund.—By an overwhelming majority the conference decided that, in anticipation of a reduced income in post-war years, all monies raised over the set allocations for the year, be held in a reserve fund to be used to make up their allocation in post-war years.

Aborigines' Living Link.—Conference agreed to donate the sum of £14, as its quota of the support of Mrs. K. N. Roberts as aborigine living link.

The treasurer's report was probably the most encouraging one that has ever been presented to conference. The receipts of every department were high, enabling increased activity.

The splendid work done by the Woolloo Sanatorium Visitation Committee had been well supported, and the members of the committee sincerely thanked for their self-sacrificing work. It was decided that all monies donated for Woolloo work, including Christmas cheer gifts, should pass through the treasurer's books,

so that amounts given could be credited to the churches of the donors.

The Woolloo Committee report was read by Mrs. D. R. Hill, in the absence of Mrs. Holliday (superintendent) through ill-health. Regular visits had been made; A. E. Jefferies continued to place his private car at the services of the visitors. The cost of the work had increased to £108, there being some 250 patients. A special letter of appreciation was sent to Mrs. Holliday and her faithful helpers.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Matron Hill, of the Bethesda Hospital, led the devotional service, emphasising the need and power of prayer, as revealed through her own personal experience. Mrs. J. C. Smith brought an appropriate message of song.

The chapel was well filled at the roll call of churches, when 54 delegates responded on behalf of 19 churches.

Mrs. D. R. Hill extended welcome greetings to visiting sisters, and responses were made by Mrs. J. K. Robinson, Mrs. Waller (Baptist Women), Mrs. Butler (Methodist Women), Mrs. Williams (W.C.T.W.). Mrs. K. Campbell sang.

Special remembrance of faithful service in days gone by is made by the conference every year. Bouquets were presented by Mrs. A. Pantou to Mesdames Black, Butcher, Spargo, Roberts, Burrows, and Miss Dyer, all of whom have seen more than four score years.

The Home Mission report was presented by Mrs. T. Smillie, who acknowledged the valu-

(Continued on page 185)

Notes on Current Topics

Christian Witness

AT Easter time several notable religious gatherings took place in Sydney. On Good Friday 3000 persons marched in a "procession of witness" from the Domain to the Anglican Cathedral. This was the largest number marching since the procession of witness was organised eight years ago. The Town Hall had to be closed half an hour before the commencement of the evening meeting. There was a large united meeting also at Pitt-st. Congregational Church. On Easter Sunday morning a sunrise service was conducted by men of the American forces. 3000 attended, some coming as early as 5 a.m. Chaplain G. M. Cochran, of the U.S. Army, delivered an address. Negro spirituals were sung by a double quartette of colored U.S. servicemen. All of these great meetings bore valued witness to the Christian faith.

Successful Conferences

I am glad to state that our N.S. Wales conference was most successful. There were large gatherings and an excellent spirit both at the Women's Jubilee Conference, held all day on April 4, and at the General Conference. Many good reports were received, and a spirit of optimism prevailed. In recent years the work has been on the up-grade. The Women's Auxiliary Jubilee Conference (under the presidency of Mrs. McCallum) was a great success. Mr. P. E. Thomas, B.A., was the capable president of the General Conference and achieved somewhat of a triumph by the kind efficiency of his time-keeping. - Owing to heavy revision of rolls by a few churches, the returns showed a loss of 99, the present membership being 6294. Finances generally are in a very healthy condition.

Our Young People

W. R. Hibbert

A Victorian writes to Interstate Friends

Dear Youth Friends,—

OVER the Easter season I found myself thinking of youth in other States and wondered if all States provided such an enriching programme as that offered to Victorian youth. I thought it might help if a Victorian set forth his Easter activities so that you could compare them with yours.

On Easter Thursday evening I attended the youth session of the Victorian conference and enjoyed the presentation of the department's report. Conference commended the department for its progressive report. Instead of an address the department elected to use the time in a panel discussion on the question, "That youth movements are dangerous." Messrs. W. R. Hibbert, R. P. Morris, C. G. Taylor, S. Neighbour and V. C. Stafford discussed the question in vigorous style.

Good Friday found me at the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, by 10 a.m. I was amazed to find the crowd of young men and women assembling for the Easter youth convention. After a lively session of song the convention leader introduced the theme, "Jesus is the only One able to make the whole world one." A young Christian's charter had been prepared. In quick time we were divided into five groups. We were fortunate in having as leaders Mrs. D. Kent, Miss D. Reynolds, Messrs. N. Arnott, C. Cole, R. P. Morris, E. Roffey and V. C. Stafford. The groups rotated each half-hour. There was a lively interchange of thought in each group. The afternoon provided an outdoor interlude, when each group conferred on special questions and

The Evangelistic Note

The word "Evangelism" might be said to be the key-word of our N.S.W. Conference. A revival of the spirit of evangelism explains in great part the improved condition of our work. Not only have successful special missions been held, but our preachers generally are giving themselves wholeheartedly to the preaching of the gospel. The double charge of our Lord's commission—preaching and teaching—is receiving increased attention. Many conference addresses roused us to a sense of our responsibility. The address on "An Evangelistic Church" given by Mr. Wilfred Jarvis, of Central Baptist Church, to our preachers was an excellent and rousing utterance. That it was received by our men with enthusiasm was a tribute both to the speaker and to the evangelical faith and evangelistic zeal of our preachers. Loyalty to our Lord demands that we give unceasing attention to his Great Commission.

An Hour of Peace.

The newspapers report that on a mile of the Italian front the American troops stopped the war for an hour and broadcast an Easter service in German, 400 yards from the enemy lines. An American Lutheran chaplain said into the loud speakers: "We have been instructed to love all men, even our enemies. Christ died for Germans and Americans alike." When aggressors have been stayed and peace returns to earth, may all peoples live in harmony with the spirit of the universal Christ who died for all men.

A. R. Main

prepared a report for the major group. The day closed with an Easter service and the pageantry of a flaming cross.

The good things of Friday tempted me to share in the convention hike. The group met at the Boronia chapel, and after an impressive service, which related the activities of the day to the convention theme, the hike was commenced to Fern Tree Gully. The rest and lunch period was made at the Lookout. By 4 p.m. all hikers had reached the reserve picnic grounds and a period was spent in song. Comments by picnickers made us realise that it proved a witness of the abundant life we were enjoying because of our faith in Jesus.

I must not weary you, but I cannot withhold the thrill of being one in a congregation of 1200 people on Sunday afternoon when Chaplain-General Allen Brooke preached the conference sermon. His message, "This is the Victory," should have been heard by every young Australian.

The conference picnic on Monday was marred by rain, but I was compensated by the blessing received at C.E. rally in the evening. Lygon-st. chapel was full to doors.

The young people's demonstration on Wednesday evening was the climax of conference. A larger hall than the two previous years had been secured, but again many were turned away. The programme included a session of song by 150 campers, a parade of Explorer and Good Companion leaders and club members and pictorial presentations on the screen of songs and recitations. The dramatised sermon on the "Dawning of a New World" gripped the audience in rapt attention.

I just felt I wanted to share my experiences with you all and tell you that I can never be the same because Easter, 1944, brought me so much happy fellowship and spiritual enrichment.

Your Victorian friend,
JOE.

BUILD TO-MORROW OUT OF TO-DAY.
Annual Youth Offering, May 7.

The Home Circle

J. C. F. Pittman.

"KNEEL beside thy sacred cross
And count for thee my life but dross;
O satisfy my soul this hour
With thy dear love, my healing power."

HOW STANLEY WAS CONVERTED

THE great African explorer Sir Henry M. Stanley tells the story of his conversion by Livingstone as follows:—

"I went to Africa as prejudiced against religion as the worst infidel in London. To a reporter like myself, who had only to deal with wars, mass meetings, and political gatherings, sentimental matters were quite out of my province. But there came to me a long time for reflection. I was out there away from a worldly world. I saw this solitary old man there, and I asked myself 'Why does he stop here in such a place? What is it that inspires him?'

"For months after we met I found myself listening to him, wondering at the old man carrying out the words, 'Leave all, and follow me.' But little by little, seeing his piety, his gentleness, his zeal, his earnestness, and how he went quietly about his business, I was converted by him, although he had not tried in any way to do it."

"AND IT CAME TO PASS"

AN aged sufferer was frequently visited by a kind lady. The latter noticed that however sad the sufferer's trials might be she always appeared to be cheerful. She asked the old lady if she had any special text which gave her comfort, and was told: "Yes. My text is, 'And it came to pass.'" "No, dear, you are mistaken, that is only the beginning of a verse," she replied. But the sufferer answered: "I am not mistaken. With regard to all my trials my text is: 'And it came to pass.' Each trial comes to pass and not to stay."

Old Lady (to pilot).—"Why are you so nervous?"

Pilot.—"We have lost both wings."

Old Lady.—"Never mind, we'll get new ones when we land."

The Family Altar

TOPIC.—A UNIQUE PRESCRIPTION

- Apr. 24—2 Kings 5: 14.
- " 25—Isaiah 55.
- " 26—Isaiah 65: 1-7.
- " 27—1 John 2: 1-6.
- " 28—1 John 2: 18-29.
- " 29—John 15: 1-10.
- " 30—Isaiah 29: 13-24; John 9: 1-12.

OUR New Testament reading directs attention to a strange prescription for an unheard-of cure. Never before had men known of one born blind receiving sight; nor would any, if they hoped that such a cure would some day be wrought, even in their wildest dreams, imagine that such extraordinary means would be adopted to effect the cure. An ointment of clay and spittle was surely devoid of medicinal properties, a prescription which would convince men that there was nothing of value in the means used, and lead them to conclude that the healing power was in him who ordered them. Thus the attention of the witnesses was directed to the physician rather than to the prescription. Even so, when our Lord commands us to be baptised, seeing that we can observe no connection between the means used and the blessing promised, we are led to give our Lord the glory,

Victorians in Conference

(Continued from page 182)

The following resolutions were then passed:

"While not offering harsh or unwarranted criticism of Federal and State governments, there is evidence of the desperate need for home accommodation which is daily becoming more acute. This conference declares that the housing problem is too serious and too urgent a matter to be lightly treated, and that the consequences of any delay in alleviating the situation are too fearful to contemplate. Conference therefore urges the governments to consider more earnestly the advisability of providing greater manpower with a view to meeting the demand."

"This conference calls the attention of the Federal and Victorian State governments to the widespread increase of gambling in all forms which is taking place under the eyes of the law in the name of charity and patriotism. The conference affirms that as the governments have declared by statute that gambling is an offence against law and order, and it is admittedly wrong in principle, steps should be taken to not only curb the evil, but to suppress it."

"This conference regards the present shortage of accommodation and lack of nursing staff for dependent aged, sick and infirm persons as matters of major importance, and are directly related to the lack of hospital accommodation, seeing that many beds are occupied by such as are not seeking cure, but care. There is tragedy associated with many cases and, for many more, the circumstances are pathetic. The position calls for immediate investigation and relief, and conference urges the State government to take steps to remedy the situation."

"This conference registers its unqualified disapproval of the activities of the drink traffic, and regrets that the Federal and State governments apparently allow the traffic (i.) considerable facilities for the disposal of liquor both at home and abroad, and (ii.) essential manpower so needful for food production and housing during a time of stress. Thus conference reaffirms its abhorrence of this traffic which thrives on its victims, degrades its best customers and constitutes a blot on the morals of the community. We further record our conviction that liquor brings profit only to those who manufacture and sell it, and that it is an enemy of the nation. We again request the Commonwealth Government to take appropriate action to deal with the menace."

F.M. DEMONSTRATION

At the Foreign Missionary demonstration, a missionary forum was presented: "Australia and Her Neighborhood." With the aid of a map, three of the preachers discussed the Pacific, and many interesting facts were stated. The aim—to show the urgency of Christian missions in this great area—was undoubtedly reached.

Miss Vawser spoke of the needs of a changing India. There was much unsettling propaganda which penetrated even to remote villages. The missionaries were making strenuous efforts to make the Indian Christians gain a sense of stability. Emphasis was laid upon the fact that they belong to a great Christian brotherhood. Miss Vawser spoke of a five year plan for our work.

In response to the appeal made by A. Hughes the sum of £154/15/3 in cash and promises was contributed.

The conference sermon was preached by Chaplain-General Allen Brooke in the Independent Church, Collins-st. There was a large congregation. Miss A. Scarce sang helpfully. Mr. Brooke declared that victory will be gained by faith in God, in the Son of God and in the church.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES, 1944-45.

President.—E. Lyall Williams, M.A.
Past President.—R. H. L. Sparks.
Vice-president.—A. W. Cleland.
Secretary.—W. Gale.
Treasurer.—G. W. Mitchell.
Asst. Secretary.—L. E. Snow.

Executive Committee of Conference.—The above officers of conference and one representative of and from each committee in control of a conference department.

Home Missionary Committee.—The officers of conference, as above, together with the following:—J. McG. Abercrombie, H. M. Clipstone, B. J. Combridge, Reg. Ennis, J. Holloway, B. F. Huntsman, F. N. Lee, T. R. Morris and G. L. Murray. (Three further members will later be co-opted.)

Advisory Board.—J. McG. Abercrombie, J. E. Allan, H. M. Clipstone, J. Holloway, Dr. W. A. Kemp, G. L. Murray, A. W. Stephenson, M.A., and J. E. Thomas together with T. H. Scambler, B.A., Dip.Ed. (principal of the college), and chairman and secretary of the Home Missionary Committee.

Foreign Missionary Committee.—J. E. Allan, L. Gole, A. A. Hughes, M.L.A., Dr. E. R. Killmier, D. E. Pittman, J. E. Thomas and R. L. Williams, B.A., B.D. (Three further members will later be co-opted.)

Young People's Committee.—Bible School Section: B. F. Huntsman, R. P. Morris, M.C.E., W. F. Newham, V. C. Stafford, D. D. Stewart and C. G. Taylor, B.A. Christian Endeavor Section: G. J. Andrews, Miss E. M. Buckingham, A. W. C. Candy, V. Foster, Miss B. W. Lee and Miss R. Roberts. (Four further members will later be co-opted to the Y.P. Committee.)

Social Service Committee.—W. T. Atkin, J. E. Austin, W. A. Brown, F. E. Buckingham, W. H. Clay, F. J. Funston, W. G. Graham, S. Neighbour, R. A. Strongman, R. L. Williams, B.A., B.D. (Four further members will later be co-opted.)

Promotion of Christian Union Committee.—J. McG. Abercrombie, N. R. Arnott, W. R. Hibbert, Dr. E. R. Killmier, E. F. G. McIlhagger, R. P. Morris, M.C.E., T. H. Scambler, B.A., Dip.Ed., L. E. Snow, V. C. Stafford, and A. B. Withers.

Literature Committee.—G. J. Andrews, W. R. Hibbert, C. B. Nance-Kivell, B.S.Litt., B.D., D. E. Pittman, R. T. Pittman, B.A., Dip.Ed., A. W. Stephenson, M.A., and C. G. Taylor, B.A. Aborigines' Committee.—G. J. Andrews, F. J. Funston, J. T. Hamilton, C. L. Lang and D. Nicholls.

Council of Churches.—B. J. Combridge, A. E. Hurren, C. B. Nance-Kivell, B.S.Litt., B.D., and S. Neighbour.

Nominations Committee.—G. J. Andrews, A. W. Cleland, B. F. Huntsman, C. L. Lang and W. Wakefield.

Central Bible Class

A CENTRAL Bible School has been planned for Melbourne. Dr. C. Irving Benson has arranged for addresses to be delivered by lecturers from almost all Protestant churches. It is planned that courses of expository studies in books of the Bible will be delivered.

The school will open on May 3, and will meet regularly in the Nicholas Hall, near Wesley Church, each Wednesday night, until the end of October. Reference was made in last issue to those who will lecture during this year. The programme for May is:

May 3, Dr. C. Irving Benson, "How to Enjoy the Bible"; May 10, Principal J. D. Northey, "The Romance of the New Testament"; May 17, Principal Hector Maclean, "Why Keep the Old Testament?" On May 24 Bishop Hart will begin his series of lectures on "The Gospel of St. John."

Western Women

(Continued from page 183)

able aid given to the work of her committee as the result of the two seats allowed on the State Home Missionary Committee by last conference. The receipts of the committee totalled £287/3/4.

Mrs. Althorpe presented the Overseas Mission report. In spite of war conditions reports from churches showed considerable increase in interest. Total receipts had been £208/1/3.

Miss Elsie Roxborough brought greetings from the aborigine mission at Norseman. The marriage of Miss Joan Saunders to Mr. Ken Roberts had brought very welcome reinforcement to the work of the mission. There were now 10 children in the dormitory. A new building had been added, which would make it possible to take 32 children.

Mrs. Bridge read her report of hospital work, showing that continued efforts had been made to cheer and comfort inmates in institutions throughout the whole State.

Mrs. C. R. Burdeu presented the first report of the Women's Aborigine Committee. £106 had been raised in about six months of effort.

The work of the Temperance Committee was reviewed by Mrs. C. J. Humphrys; considerable activity had taken place in regard to Band of Hope work. Pledge books had been made available to several Bible schools. £2/16/9 had been given for the work of the committee.

EVENING SESSION

A large attendance greeted the president (Mrs. Bridge) as she took her place at the evening meeting, which opened with a bright song service led by J. A. Bridge. The National Anthem was followed by an intercessory prayer by C. H. Hunt. Mrs. Bridge's presidential address was a stirring appeal for a fully surrendered life.

Musical items were contributed by Sublaco ladies, and very greatly enjoyed.

The speaker of the evening was A. A. McRoberts, who spoke on Acts 1: 8. This outspoken address was convincing, and appreciated.

After the introduction of the incoming officers cheques were presented to the conference president for home missions (£256/13/9) and foreign missions (£176/16/3).

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President, Mrs. J. C. Humphrys; Vice-presidents, Mesdames I. Digwood, Scott and Ellis; Secretary, Mrs. F. D. Pollard; Assistant Secretary, Mrs. J. Carpenter; Treasurer, Mrs. W. J. Beck; Organist, Mrs. W. H. Yeomans; Assistant Organist, Mrs. T. Smillie; Superintendents—(Home Missions) Mesdames T. Smillie and A. Lucraft, (Overseas Missions) Mesdames W. Althorpe, J. Carpenter, (Hospitals) Mrs. J. Bridge, (Prayer) Mrs. J. Etheridge, (Dorcas) Mrs. A. M. Moyle, (Aborigines) Mrs. C. R. Burdeu, (Isolated) Mrs. A. A. McRoberts, (Temperance) Mrs. W. H. Nightingale, (Youth) Mrs. Digwood, (Woorloo Visitation) Mrs. Scott, (Catering) Mrs. Eaton, (Obituary) Mrs. P. Jefferies.

Representatives to Home Mission Committee Mesdames Smillie and Lucraft; Overseas representatives, Mesdames Althorpe and Carpenter; Aborigines representatives, Mesdames Burdeu, Black and Yelland.

Strong committees from the various churches were also appointed to assist the superintendents in their work.

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Here and There

We are sorry that the condition of H. G. Harward has not improved during the past week. Our brother sustained an injury in an accident a few weeks ago and his health has been in a low state since then.

We are glad to announce that Don Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Thomas, now a prisoner of war, has again sent word to his parents and also good wishes to friends at Williamstown, Mitcham and Glen Iris, Victoria.

S. A. Crouch, a former student of the College of the Bible, Victoria, is the preacher of the Central Christian Church, Brownsville, Texas, U.S.A. In a letter received from our brother he shows an interest in the work of the Australian churches.

On April 10 the following message reached us: "Hinrichsen-Morris mission, Inverell, wonderful meeting, Sunday night, wet, three decisions, twelve to date.—Burgin." Another message reached us on April 17, announcing:—"Hinrichsen-Morris mission had magnificent meeting, Sunday night; many unable to get seats; one man decided.—Burgin."

Lionel A. Johnston, secretary of The Free Bible Society of Victoria, writes: "The Free Bible Society of Victoria has donated 10,000 copies of John's Gospel (souvenir edition published by the Scripture Gift Mission) to the "Campaigners for Christ" for distribution to the men of the Military, Naval, and Air Forces. This society has also given some thousands of Testaments to the men of the Services."

On Good Friday the combined meetings of Gawler, Williamstown and Kersbrook churches of Christ, S.A., were held in Kersbrook Institute. Between 80 and 90 adults and a number of younger folk met. Williamstown brethren took charge of morning service, speakers being W. Matthews, of Adelaide, and Mr. Talbot,

of Kersbrook. Dinner was provided by Kersbrook sisters. The afternoon service was conducted by members of Gawler church. During business session it was resolved that next meetings be held at Gawler on Good Friday, 1945. To defray expenses of hall an offering was taken. Speakers were Mr. Bartlett, of Gawler, and A. M. Davis, of Adelaide. Mr. Davis also gave a talk to children on New Guinea.

Mission at Launceston, Tas.

Thomas Hagger

It was in the year 1884—sixty years ago—that as a result of an advertisement in the paper, nine disciples formed a church in Launceston, Tasmania. Just steady progress was made until a tent mission was conducted by S. G. Griffith which met with phenomenal success. This was followed by a very successful ministry by H. Swain. It was at the time of the mission that the splendid church building in Margaret-st. was secured, and this was enlarged during the term of service by H. Swain in order to accommodate the congregation.

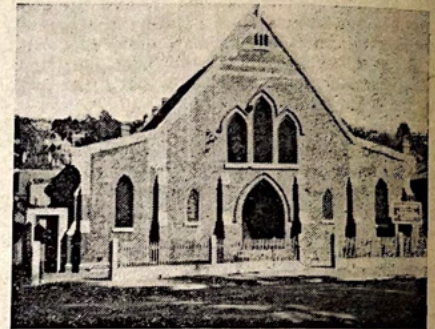
To-day we find one of the best churches in our Australian brotherhood in that city, with which Stanton H. Wilson is in the first year of a ministry. There are also two suburban churches—one at Invermay, and the other at Sandhill.

Recently the writer was invited by the Margaret-st. church to conduct a brief teaching and evangelistic mission. This began with a welcome meeting to the missionary and his wife on Friday, March 17, and concluded with a thanksgiving and consecration service on Monday, April 3. Most of the members were keen and

enthusiastic and excellent preparations had been made by the preacher and the church. Advertising was on a liberal scale; in addition to printing for house-to-house distribution, large advertisements appeared in the Launceston papers, and two announcements each day were made over the air. Quite a number of the members never missed a meeting. One brother rode his bicycle 13 miles into the meeting and 13 miles home again after its close. One night one member who was away on holiday journeyed 50 miles in order to be present, and brought a non-member with her. Others did equally as well. Non-members came as far as 15 miles on several occasions in order to attend.

During the mission six believing penitents were baptised, and two baptised believers were received into membership.

Toward the close the brethren were told that the mission would cost between £45 and £50, and they were asked to contribute on the



The Chapel at Launceston.

thanksgiving night sufficient to meet the expenses as an act of worship. And calmly and quietly with prayer the offering was received, and when counted it was found to be over £56.

For the privilege of visiting the church, for the happy fellowship with many worthy brethren, for a season of co-operation with such a consecrated preacher as Stanton H. Wilson, the writer gives thanks. And without claiming to be a prophet, he predicts that there is a great future before the cause of New Testament Christianity in Launceston.

J. P. Foot writes: The church was fortunate in its choice of a missionary. Mr. Hagger won his way quickly into the hearts of all. On one week night a very large gathering heard a splendid message on Christian unity. The visible results were four decisions for Christ and two baptised believers, all of whom have been received into fellowship. The mission closed on April 3 with a consecration and thanksgiving service. The thank offering more than covered the expenses of the effort. T. J. Wilmot did splendid services as song-leader, assisted by Mrs. H. Stevens (organist), and many others helped in the musical portion of the mission. A literature table was extensively patronised, and a large quantity of literature was distributed at each service. The church expressed gratitude to Mr. Hagger for journeying to Tasmania to help us, and for his splendid services as missionary. Souvenirs of Tasmanian blackwood were presented to Mr. and Mrs. Hagger prior to leaving. The mission has concluded, but the influence and inspiration of the meetings will be reflected in the greater determination of the church to press forward to a more consecrated effort in the task of evangelism and holy living.

From Week to Week

FOR some weeks it will be necessary for conference reports to be featured in the paper. In the outline of the proceedings of the Victorian conference, I have not mentioned some of the routine, but have selected one or two statements made during the debates on the various reports. Of course, it would be impossible to cover every detail. This year an effort has been made to give some idea of what was said. Perhaps it may interest those who are not inclined usually to take notice of what takes place at these gatherings. I should like to create a greater interest in these annual meetings. Many members who are towers of strength in the local cause do not attend a meeting of conference. I think these brethren could help to raise the standard of these meetings, and they would also find inspiration in the large gatherings of co-workers in Christ.

"SHANE QUARTERLY" for January, 1944, has just come to hand. It is a very interesting number. Most of the articles make reference to Robert Owen and his religious and social views. Robert Owen was an opponent of the Christian faith in his earlier years, and believed that a new social order could be built without the driving force of religion. It is considered that modern Russia is indebted to Robert Owen for the manner in which the social order was developed. The religious views of Owen were challenged by Alexander Campbell, and a famous debate occurred between these two great men. Some believe that the American people were saved from following the revolutionaries of France mainly because of the lead of Campbell and others of like mind. Not only did the debate help the

American people, it also brought fame to Alexander Campbell.

IDLE words often cause more sorrow than they ought. Chinese consider foolish words to be like galloping horses that cannot be overtaken. The words that slip off the tongue without much premeditation are the most dangerous. If they could only be recalled, how much happiness they would bring back into homes and churches! While speaking to a man recently, I found he had been deeply wounded by the chance remark of another person. Perhaps the one who uttered it never realised to the full what the words implied. However most of us are more sensitive, perhaps, than we ought to be over such casual remarks. If we accept such words on their face value and not give them a greater worth than they deserve, we should not let them trouble us. It seems we must keep guard over our tongue, and not say what might hurt another; and then, if others speak idly of us, let us not make more of the words than they are really worth.

IN a list of those who were once associated with the Butler University, U.S.A., and are now serving in the American Forces as chaplains, I notice several names of men who were once at Glen Iris, Victoria, training in the College of the Bible: Theo. Fisher, O. S. Brown, V. R. Griffin and H. Toogood. Another Australian mentioned is W. J. Moore, who is a professor, at Butler in peace-time. Glen Iris could present a very fine list of men now serving as chaplains, if names of those on duty in all parts of the world could be collected.

News of the Churches

Western Australia

Inglewood.—At church annual business meeting the following were elected elders: L. Peacock, T. Peacock and H. J. Yelland; deacons, Messrs. Beames, Cook, Doney, Eaton, Paul, Riessen and Slipper; secretary, Mr. Yelland; treasurer, Mr. Slipper; organist, Mr. Beames. The Bible school anniversary was a success. C. H. Hunt addressed the week-night meeting. On Sunday evening Chaplain Hilford spoke to parents and scholars. The singing of boys and girls, led by Mr. Fewster, was very pleasing. 150 scholars were on the platform and the audience was too large for the building on Sunday afternoon. L. Peacock is superintendent. Mr. Sherman conducted a special Sunday service during March.

BROADCAST OF SERVICE

VISITORS INCLUDE MEN OF FORCES

PERTH (Lake-st.).—Apr. 2 was "every-member-present Sunday," and good meetings were held. In morning Mr. Robinson gave a searching message. A successful young people's tea and rally took place in afternoon. At gospel meeting the choir sang and Mr. Robinson spoke. Mr. Thomas is back after four weeks in S.A. W. Alexander is back after illness. On morning of April 9 the service was broadcast. Visitors included E. R. Roden (Ontario, Cal.), L. Usmar (Palmerston North, N.Z.), M. McGugan (Sydney), J. Cozene (N.Z.), E. C. Butler, R.A.A.F., P. O. Banks, R.A.A.F. Mrs. K. Campbell rendered a solo and J. Keith Robinson gave an inspiring message. At 7.30 p.m. E. R. Berry was soloist. Chaplain Usmar, who had been associated with Mr. Robinson at Nelson, N.Z., preached to a large and keenly interested gathering. In response to an appeal by Mr. Robinson two scholars from Bible school made the good confession.

Queensland

Maryborough.—There were fairly good attendances on April 9. Morning service was broadcast, Jack Wiltshire giving a helpful message. H. J. Wiltshire gave the gospel message, V. S. Dallinger being away at conference. The church appreciates a couch donated by Mrs. Alan Price. An Easter service was conducted by H. J. Wiltshire on Good Friday morning. On April 2 Sister H. Hook was welcomed into fellowship. Sister J. Ruhle has been ill in hospital.

Monkland.—On March 24 Mrs. Runge took charge of J.C.E. Good services were held on April 2, A. Kingston preaching at night. Offering for prisoners of war was received. A young man, recently baptised, was welcomed at morning service. On April 4 a social was tendered to Mr. and Mrs. R. Culbert upon the occasion of their marriage, and a presentation was made. A large gathering of members and friends enjoyed the evening together.

Gympie.—After small attendances owing to rain, the Bible school again had an increased number present. On March 28 a united intercessory service was held in town hall. C.E. held a successful social on March 24, and juniors had a picnic on April 1. Easter sermons were given on April 2, and at night an offering for Prisoners of War Fund was received. C.E. "Egg Day" was observed on March 26 with egg gifts for local hospital.

Boonah.—On Youth Sunday the Sunday school children were entertained at a tea held under rear of chapel. Youth offering amounted to £9. Annual business meeting and election of deacons took place on March 22. Harvest festival services were held on Mar. 26, with concert and sale of gifts on 28th. Proceeds, £11. Church is planning to hold jubilee celebrations about October. Offering for Aborigines Mission, £11. A Sunday school class has been opened at Silverdale.

South Australia

Prospect.—Members of K.S.P. entertained fathers at a social evening; 40 present. Mid-week service took the form of a combined prayer meeting at Pulsford-rd. Baptist church. A. E. Brown exhorted the church on April 10; good attendance. Evening service was in form of a service of song, "The Story of the Cross." A. Fax was soloist. Fellowship was enjoyed with visitors and boys on leave. Good work is being done in all departments.

Flinders Park.—The church has had fellowship with Bob Conning, of Moreland, Vic.; he associated himself actively with the Endeavor Society while on holidays, and spoke on morning of April 2. Fellowship has also been enjoyed with Edgar Hatswell, home on leave, and others. After church service on April 2, members went to York church to witness the baptism of Mrs. Nunn, who had made her stand for Christ at Flinders Park. Six of the Endeavorers attended Easter camp at Aldgate.

Wallaroo.—During recent weeks work has improved. Three young people have decided for Christ. Numbers attending Bible school are much better. Theo. Edwards, of Moonta, addressed afternoon meeting of harvest thanksgiving on March 19. Sisters are meeting fortnightly in home of Mrs. T. Brealey, with better attendances. Mr. Brealey has been confined to his bed for several months. A social recently and C.E. picnic have helped to hold interest of young people. Cheerful news is received from Spr. H. J. Andrews, A.I.F.

Queenstown.—Bible school anniversary services were held on April 2. W. L. Ewers, W. Beiler and W. C. Brooker gave splendid addresses. Afternoon and evening services had crowded attendances. The children sang admirably under leadership of Mrs. Mildrum. Speakers who have helped at morning services recently include W. C. Brooker, G. A. Foote and S. Scudds. Home mission offering overreached target set (£30/6/-). Bible school picnic was held at Alberton oval on Easter Monday. Boys home on leave who have had fellowship recently were R. Scudds and B. Douglas.

Hindmarsh.—Recent Sunday evening meetings have been uplifting, with improved attendances and powerful addresses by Mr. Shipway. Fred. Knowles is home on leave. Mr. and Mrs. Johns, from Victoria, have been received by letter. On April 3 Bible school broadcast from 5AD. A series of Happy Hour meetings among children of district is to be conducted from April 24 to 28. Fortnightly cottage prayer meetings have been arranged commencing April 12. A successful Saturday afternoon outing was arranged by Young Men's Class on March 25. Sports and tea were enjoyed at National Park, Belair. Home mission offering was £40.

Stirling.—The church maintains standard of good attendances morning and evening, and the services of G. T. Fitzgerald are greatly appreciated. Harvest thanksgiving services were held, with a fine display of groceries, jams and produce. The goods were sent to Brighton Bables' Home, S.A. On March 25 Aldgate Valley and Stirling combined Bible school picnic was held at National Park. Members were pleased to have the young people's camp in Aldgate town again over Easter holidays. On Easter Sunday, at Aldgate, in after-

noon, young people took charge of service, also at Stirling in evening. W. Beiler spoke to a crowded audience. The church has recently formed a choir under leadership of Ron Pitkin which is helpful to evening service.

Semaphore.—On March 12 Will Sellick was received by faith and obedience, and Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Brooker by letter from Grote-st. A special meeting for women was held on March 21, when Mrs. Bartlett (president Women's Conference) gave an address to a large audience and Mr. Ewers outlined future work of church. The officers entertained the ladies at supper. House-to-house canvass was made on afternoon of March 26 to secure Bible school scholars and distribute first edition of "The Christian Messenger." Easter Victory Campaign commenced at 7 p.m., and will continue to end of April. Keen interest is shown in vital topics discussed by Mr. Ewers. Meeting for men was held on March 28, when important matters were discussed. Ladies provided supper. All branches of the work have improved.

Mile End.—Harvest thanksgiving services were held on March 19. There were splendid congregations morning and evening, and an excellent display of products. These were afterwards sent to Morialta Children's Home. On March 26 A. Coin and Jas. E. Webb were speakers. At close of evening service a soldier on leave confessed Christ. On morning of April 2 Mrs. A. Norman—home from Melbourne on leave—and Mrs. L. Seath, of Hartwell, Vic., were visitors. Miss D. Miller was received by transfer from Dulwich. On Sunday evening young people of church were guests of Bible school staff at tea. A. Anderson brought conference greetings and K. A. Jones an appropriate address. 65 sat to tea. An Easter service was held at night, Mr. Webb preaching. Anthems by choir under leadership of Miss Olive Moore were appreciated. W. Green, superintendent Bible school, and vice-president of conference, is recovering from sickness.

New South Wales

VICTORY CAMPAIGN

SIX HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS MAKE CONFESSION

BROKEN HILL (Wolfram-st.).—Six young high school students have made the good confession. On Apr. 2 H. E. Paddick preached, when Dawn Fishburn and Roger Baker came forward. On Good Friday a C.E. "Victory Campaign" was held, a helpful time of fellowship being spent. Mr. Turner (Baptist) and Mr. Alexander (Methodist) took part. Many other C.E. members and visiting friends were present. Meetings started at 2.30 p.m., followed by a tea and discussion. Service at 7.30 was well attended, when H. E. Paddick gave a message and Don Hanley and Frank Goudie made their confession. Easter Sunday services were well attended, especially in evening for a service of song. Special Easter music was contributed by choir interspersed with scripture readings; duets by Mrs. Fishburn and Mr. Rough, and Mrs. and Mr. L. Warren. H. E. Paddick gave a short message, and John Cullen came forward. A few weeks previously Max Plane made his confession.

Hornsby.—An illustrated lecture, dealing with mission work at Norseman, was given recently to an appreciative audience by I. A. Pater-noster. During March E. C. Hinrichsen and V. Morris visited the church and the former gave an inspiring address. Work is showing improvement, particularly in young people's department and midweek meeting. Asquith cause has closed owing to owner desiring to repossess building. Kindergarten is meeting in an Asquith member's home. It is hoped older scholars and Asquith members will attend Hornsby Bible school and church.

Canley Vale.—125 were present at S.S. anniversary on April 2. A programme of sacred items and choruses was followed by an interesting talk to the children by V. Parker. The annual concert was presented by the school (assisted by Girls' Club) on April 12 to a large audience. The items were well received, and teachers and scholars were congratulated on their efforts. Mr. Parker presided; the prizes were presented by P. Retchford, who was down from Gilgandra for conference. Good attendances at all services have been maintained. J. Clydesdale brought the morning message on Easter Sunday.

Canterbury-Earlwood.—Attendances morning and evening are good. W. J. Crossman brought an inspiring message on morning of April 9. A. Hinrichsen has spoken at all other meetings recently, his addresses being helpful and convincing. Three confessions and three baptised believers have been received during past three weeks. Miss Cox, organist and press correspondent, is recovering from a painful accident. The church is grateful to Mrs. Tabrett for filling the vacancy as morning organist in addition to playing for evening services and sometimes for school. A.B.C. Band contributed £10/15/- towards home mission and Bible College work. Bible school and Endeavor societies are doing good work.

Belmore.—Good work continues in all departments, and work is progressing. On April 2 Bible school attendance was 165, and at gospel service Mr. Corlett preached to a crowded meeting. On March 24 Christian Endeavorers and parents entertained Miss May Gittens and Russell Carlill at a social evening, and made a presentation to them in honor of their approaching marriage. Pi fraternal orders held an installation service on March 29, Mrs. McWilliams installing the Phis, and Mr. Corlett the Kappas. A return cricket match was played between Kappas from Belmore and Canley Vale on April 1, and Canley Vale folk were entertained at a social at night. A happy day of fellowship was enjoyed.

Victoria

Brighton.—At close of C. B. Nance-Kivell's gospel message on April 16, four girls confessed Christ. A library of Christian and current literature has been commenced.

ACTIVE CHURCH

GOOD AVERAGES IN ATTENDANCES AND GIVING

NORTHCOTE.—Two young people were received into membership by baptism on April 9. L. Dudley was speaker at morning service. Average attendance for past three months for breaking of bread was 164 and for evening services 101. Offerings for same period totalled £268; of this amount £93 was given to brotherhood departments. At morning service of April 16, W. T. Atkin exchanged with E. J. Hateley (Methodist). The church is co-operating with other churches in united services in Northcote Town Hall under campaign title of "The Challenge of Christ."

Emerald.—Chapel was packed almost to capacity on Good Friday night for a special service conducted by Jas. A. Sindrey, minister of Congregational church, Deepdene. Both services on Easter Sunday were well attended, and many visitors were present.

Hartwell.—C. J. Robinson spoke to well-attended meetings on April 16. Visitors were welcomed. At evening service Ian Birchell was baptised. 180 attended Bible school. Junior Endeavor is enjoying well attended meetings under leadership of Mrs. K. Holmes,

Bayswater.—At evening service of harvest thanksgiving Lucy Handasyde and Alan Westaway, on behalf of members of Bible class, presented a new pulpit Bible to the congregation. A. G. McCullough accepted the Bible, stating that it would make a permanent link between Bible class members and church.

Ascot Vale.—P.B.P. visited Royal Park Children's Home, gave a nice party, and left a donation of eggs. Good Companions had an initiation service on Friday. On March 25 J.C.E. visited Children's Hospital and left gifts. On Good Friday J.C.E. visited Melbourne Hospital and distributed flowers amongst patients.

Kyneton.—R. Hillier, of the college, spoke at all services on March 5. Bible school picnic was held in the gardens on 11th. A. McDonald gave Easter message on April 9, and his sister Hazel sang a solo. Delightful Bible school anniversary services were held on 16th inst., when illustrated addresses were enjoyed from W. R. Hibbert, of Youth Department.

Ormond.—C. L. Lang is giving good messages at prayer meetings and on Lord's days. At gospel meeting on April 2 three young people from Bible school confessed Christ. At a well-attended gospel meeting on April 16 a young lady from Bible school confessed Christ and two were baptised. The work is going on very well.

Doncaster.—The church has suffered loss through the death of Joseph Hardidge, a member for 50 years. Sympathy is extended to the family. Mr. Banks and Mr. Wright, of Blackburn, exchanged platforms on morning of 16th inst. Attendances keep up to usual. Church Extension offering was £12. Mr. Banks with a number of the young people has attended youth gatherings.

Burnley.—Messrs. Williams and Wedd, of the college, have given helpful messages recently. Mrs. Morris was baptised on March 26. H. Long spoke on April 1, and in evening L. Crisp's message on the Passion was given with aid of picture and recorded music, after which H. Long led singing for "fellowship hour." A happy evening was arranged by Mesdames Conry and Newham on April 15. Services are well attended.

East Malvern.—Speakers during recent weeks were B. F. Huntsman, L. E. Snow, J. McG. Abercrombie, R. P. Clark, E. F. McIlhagger, E. H. Beament, E. F. Halkyard, J. R. Mackay and R. S. A. McLean. Mrs. T. Hagger gave a talk at Sunshine Circle meeting on March 7, and Mrs. A. E. Hurren sang. Principal T. H. Scambler led discussion at fellowship meeting on March 1. Offering for church extension was £2/15/6.

South Yarra.—On April 9 E. Roffey gave splendid addresses morning and evening, C. Cole presiding and Mrs. Cole playing the organ. Several visitors were present. One of the older members, Mrs. Trask, has been very ill in Alfred Hospital for many weeks. On Apr. 16 E. Roffey exchanged with Dan Stewart, from South Melbourne. Endeavorers gave a musical evening to inmates of Elizabeth Fry Retreat on Easter eve.

Mont Albert.—Five new scholars have been gained as a result of competition in Bible school. A happy time was spent by children and parents at Sunday school picnic at Blackburn lake on April 1. It is anticipated that Chaplain Young will commence a ministry with the church on April 23. The services of Mr. Ryles in past few months have been much appreciated. R. Hillier, of the college, presided at Lord's Table on April 16.

South Melbourne.—Attendances are on upgrade. Interest at gospel services is well sustained. There was one confession on April 2. Soloist at gospel service on April 9 was Miss D. McCallum. Several young men in Services have been home on leave during past few weeks. Speaker at 11 a.m. on April 16 was Mr. Roffey, of South Yarra. At gospel service Alex Cunningham was baptised, Geoff. Whiting officiating. Auxiliaries are in good heart and increased attendances are reported in school, girls' clubs and Pi Sigma Pi Club.

Frankston.—Mr. Barnett, of the college, is giving appreciated addresses. He will be with the church until the coming of Mr. Hagger in May. On April 13 Women's Mission Band celebrated seventh birthday. Mrs. Cleland, vice-president Women's Conference, was speaker and Miss P. Daff soloist. There was an attendance of 85 ladies. A happy time of fellowship was enjoyed.

Berwick.—Young people are taking active interest in an Endeavor Society just commenced. A fund has been started to help



The Berwick Chapel

support a full-time preacher at some future date. The chapel has been improved by a new front fence and gate. Owing to absence of Mr. Fletcher, P. Aurisch gave the address on April 9. Mr. Fletcher has accepted an invitation to labor with the church for twelve months.

East Kew.—Average attendance at four meetings of Sunday school anniversary was 240, with crowded chapel on April 4 for demonstration and prize-giving. Miss Dorothy Barnes completed seventeen years without missing one Sunday. Thirty young people attended Easter camp under leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Elliot, in addition to others from other churches. On Good Friday a combined service was held in Methodist church, Strathalbyn-st.

Middle Park.—On April 9, at morning meeting, Mr. Stewart gave echoes of conference in absence of Mr. Whiting, who had charge of a boys' camp at Montrose. Mr. Wedd, of the college, was evening speaker. On April 16 L. Finger, of St. Kilda, presided in morning. Mrs. Stokes was welcomed back after long illness. Fellowship was enjoyed with Mr. Osborne, A.I.F., and others. Mr. Cole gave an inspiring address on behalf of Sudan United Mission.

Mildura.—District churches suffered a severe loss in the death of E. J. Waters on April 2. He served Merbein and Dareton churches, but was at one time preacher at Mildura. Sympathy is with Mrs. Waters and her three small boys. Church attendances have improved. There have been many visitors. April 2 was harvest thanksgiving service. Easter services were conducted on 9th by J. Lewis. Recently a young lady confessed Christ and was baptised on March 26.

Boronia.—Many visitors broke bread with the church on Easter Sunday morning. K. Barton, of the college, gave a helpful message. Members met with combined Boronia churches for Easter service on Sunday evening; 130 attended. S.S. has begun a new year with increased membership and a keen superintendent and staff. Kinder school is overtaxed for accommodation. Members and officers of church congratulate E. L. Williams on being elected president of Victorian conference. Good attendances listened to two fine addresses by Mr. Williams on April 16.

Box Hill.—Mr. Baird completed his interim ministry on April 16. A small presentation was made to express appreciation of church. His messages have been stimulating and enriching. A baptismal service was held during gospel service on April 16. Most young people of church, under care of Mr. and Mrs. Reed, held a camp at Montrose during holidays. Mrs.

Reed is confined to her room as result of a scald sustained at the camp. Heartening results are seen from increase campaign of Bible school. F. Morgan expects to commence his ministry on April 23.

Camberwell.—On April 16, in absence of R. L. Williams on holidays, J. McG. Abercrombie spoke morning and evening, the messages being much appreciated. Communion service was well attended; 110 broke bread during day. Bible school work is progressing satisfactorily. Attendance at combined senior Bible class is a great encouragement. At present its members meet in home of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Brown owing to lack of accommodation at chapel. Superintendent, teachers and staff are enthusiastic and giving loyal service. The church sympathises with Miss J. McClure and family in the passing of her father.

Malvern-Caulfield.—All meetings were splendidly attended on April 16. H. Watson spoke in morning, F. E. Buckingham at night. On April 13 the church officers tendered a social evening to Miss Enid Buckingham, church organist, and H. H. Bowden, in view of their approaching marriage. On behalf of the church Mr. Holloway presented the couple with a substantial cheque. T. Jackson made a presentation on behalf of the choir, of which Miss Buckingham was secretary. The couple were married on April 15 by W. H. Clay, the bride being given away by F. E. Buckingham, her father, who is preacher of the church.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—On April 9 E. L. Williams, conference president, gave morning address. C. G. Taylor preached at night, when a young woman re-consecrated her life to her Lord. Sgt. R. Sutton rendered two delightful solos. Many visitors were present for the day and had rich fellowship. The ladies, under the capable leadership of Mrs. R. McColl, rendered their usual service at this season, serving 450 meals throughout the day. On April 15 Horace Lee was united in marriage to Edna Adams, of Gardiner. T. Hagger, uncle of the bridegroom, assisted by C. G. Taylor, officiated. On April 16 C. G. Taylor was speaker at both services. Margaret Calway was baptised. At Bible class the opening session of a Bible quiz created much interest.

Essendon.—Services on April 16 were very well attended. Over 100 broke bread during the day, and at gospel service 107 were present. W. E. Jackel delivered powerful addresses. At close of morning meeting, Mr. Jackel, on behalf of church, made a presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Len Huntley on occasion of their recent wedding. During gospel service two solos were rendered by Miss Joyce Argo; and prior to a baptismal service, at which Mrs. Reeves was immersed by Mr. Jackel, a message in song was given by Mr. Forbes. On April 15 V. Margetts was the speaker at a well-attended meeting of Young People's Fellowship Class. Over Easter holidays a camp was held at Upwey by the young people, under guidance of Mr. and Mrs. G. Dunn, and proved most successful.

ADDRESSES

R. Dickens (secretary Hornsby church, N.S.W.)—56 Hunter-st., Hornsby.

Theo. Edwards (preacher Moonta church, S.A.)—Church of Christ manse, Moonta.

F. Hunting (preacher Ann-st. church, Brisbane, Q.)—C/o church of Christ, Ann-st., Brisbane.

A. M. McNicol (secretary North Essendon church, Vic.)—111 McPherson-st., Essendon.

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BIRTHS

LAWRIE.—On Feb. 27, at Kadina, S.A., to Mr. and Mrs. Merv. Lawrie—a daughter.

WHITE.—On April 16, at "Rosehill" private hospital, Bentleigh, to Mr. and Mrs. Walter F. White, of 7 Viola-cres., Highett, S.21—the gift of a son. A brother for Neville.

DEATHS

ALLAN.—On April 5, at 12 Queen-st., Kew, Elsie Gertrude, beloved wife of J. Ernest (preacher, Hawthorn church, Vic.), and loving mother of Elsie (Mrs. S. Deane), Sgt. Ern. G. (A.I.F.), and Sgt. Keith H. (A.I.F.). "He giveth his loved one sleep."

TELENIUS.—On March 30, 1944, at Nelson, N.Z., Elizabeth, widow of late Charles Telenius, and eldest daughter of late Jabez Dickens, of Melbourne. In her 87th year.

IN MEMORIAM

COLMER.—In loving memory of my dear wife, Jane Colmer, who fell asleep in Jesus on April 17, 1941. Whose loving life we can never forget.

—Inserted by husband, children and grandchildren, James H. Colmer, 31 Eddy-st., Thornleigh, N.S.W.

FARR.—In loving memory of our dear mother Ada M., father, W. Stanley Farr, who passed away on March 29, 1941, April 11, 1933. Ever remembered by their loving son Eric, daughter Winnie, Mrs. E. Oldfield, of Sans Souci.

STEWART.—In loving memory of our dear brother, Frank Allan Stewart, called home April 10, 1940. "For ever with the Lord."—Inserted by Tom and Marie Blair.

BEREAVEMENT NOTICE

BEATTIE.—Eric, late of 79 Garnet-st., West Brunswick, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Fitzpatrick (Brisbane), wish to thank the doctor, relatives and all kind friends for floral tributes, telegrams, letters and personal expressions of sympathy in their sad bereavement of dear Marie, beloved wife, and darling daughter, and mother of baby Graham, also loving daughter-in-law of Wm. and M. Beattie. Please accept this as our personal thanks.

BROADCAST SERVICE

Gardiner, April 30, 11 a.m., station 3AR. President, R. F. Geyer; preacher, Principal T. H. Scambler.

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Morning, 11, Mr. Alex Wilson.

Basket luncheon. Tea and milk provided.

Afternoon, 3, Mr. T. H. Scambler.

Reunion of past and present members.

5 p.m., Fellowship tea provided in school room.

Evening, 7, service of witness and thanksgiving.

Speaker, Mr. Pratt.

We shall be pleased to have fellowship with you as in the past.

WANTED

Board and lodging wanted by elderly brother, not fussy, with elderly couple or otherwise, church members preferred. State terms, must be reasonable. George, c/o Austral Co., 530 Elizabeth-st., Melb., C.1.

Shack or similar accommodation wanted for about 12 boys, Montrose district preferred, May 22-30.—S. Ryles, College of the Bible, Glen Iris, Vic.

Umpires wanted for P.C.F.O. Girls' Basket Ball matches commencing May in suburban area only, 2/6 and travelling expenses per afternoon. Apply Miss G. Drew, 55 Raleigh-st., Essendon, W.5.

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A. Anderson, Secretary.

The Australian Christian

April 19, 1944

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Tokens of Promise

MR. AND MRS. T. ESCOTT, who have labored in India for forty-five years, show no sign that they want to return home to Australia for the eventide of life. They request to be allowed to remain in India during the present unsettled conditions and live amongst their beloved Indian people. In the following letter Mr. Escott tells of a work of promise that goes on quietly day by day.

A Word in Season

"We have engaged two more preachers with families, and hope to put on another. Recently I went on bicycle to a village five miles from here with one of my preachers, and had a very encouraging time amongst the people. As usual, one met a number of old patients who had attended the dispensary, and who warmly welcomed us. In the course of our rounds, spreading out the message of life in some parts of the village, we called on the head man of the village, with whom we are well acquainted, as we had attended him and his family in their illnesses. At the time of our visit, a little girl suffering from malaria was called to come and see uncle, as they call me; and as she sat on my knee, they said that she and her brother sung very nicely from one of our hymnbooks. I spoke to them of Jesus and how he was the life-giver and Saviour, and in response the old man said, 'I believe he is the only Saviour that can meet our need.' Before leaving I had prayer with them, which seemed to make a deep impression on them. I often think the reaping time is not far distant."

Growth of Dispensary Work

"The dispensary work has grown considerably; so much so, that I have found it necessary to have a larger building, as the present place is too small. I have commenced to turn what used to be the primary day school into the dispensary. When the necessary alterations are made, it will provide me with a large waiting room, examination room and a separate room as a dispensary. Where I am at present it is far too small, as often people have to be examined in the dispensary, and sometimes there are a number in when I am dispensing, so that, with talking and other interruptions, it becomes distracting."

DHOND NEWS

"WE ended the year with a great rush of maternity cases—four in thirty-six hours. We had 102 for the year, an average of two a week. Mrs. Michael had a day or two in bed with malaria just before Christmas, but is well again. Robert is very well and happy. He enjoys the company of the Oldfield boys, especially that of John. We have had lovely cool mornings lately and rather nice days. The mornings are very dark, as the sun does not get up till after 8 a.m. It will not be long now before we have lighter mornings and the heat. Once Christmas is past the hot season seems to rush upon us. Doctor Michael is now in Egypt. The latest letters tell of good health, cold, a busy time, and a trip on the Nile. As he went by plane, he was unable to take much luggage, so is feeling the need of more warm clothing."—L. M. Foreman.

"Dr. Michael was able, in late November, to visit the sphinx, pyramids and mosques, etc. At Christmas time he was allowed a few days



School Children, Diksal.

leave, and was able to spend Christmas in Palestine. Christmas night was spent on the hillside, underneath the stars, between Bethlehem and Jerusalem. It was bitterly cold. He said that there was definitely a disappointing element because of the commercialism which has attached itself to these places of interest. However, the trip was well worth while, and it has made Bible study more interesting and easy. With the aid of a map, which he now has, he thinks he could easily find any place if given the opportunity of doing so. Letters come at rather irregular periods at times, but they all eventually arrive."—Mrs. L. J. Michael.

NEW WELFARE CENTRE (BARAMATI)

THE new welfare centre building is up, and on Feb. 29 it was formally opened. We had a bhajan (service of song party). It was crowded out that night. I do hope it will often be crowded out when the evangelists are able to hold other bhajans and give the gospel message to the people. As soon as I can

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

I will send an article about that new work. Next week we hope to start welfare work among these people. The furniture for the building was not ready to take down there, so that is why a start was not made on the first of the month. Then again, I was more than busy getting ready for the agricultural show that has been held in Baramati. The Mamlatdar (head Government officer for this taluka), also the show committee, kindly allowed me to have a maternity and child welfare display in the show. It took a little planning and expense, but has all been worth while. There must have been some 25,000 or more persons who visited that show during the three days it was held. My nurse and I were tired out continually giving lectures on the posters and exhibits I had gathered for the display. We can only hope

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that in time these poor, ignorant mothers will be helped and benefited as we would like them to be. One thing that caught the eye of the public was the milk powder I had, and the way I was able to make a milk mixture with all the necessary food values in it, for babies or adults, from the skim milk powder, milk with equal quantities of buffalo's milk. Thanks are due to those who so kindly contribute to the milk fund. Please tell them how thankful I am for their help in this way."—E. M. Caldicott.

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Obituary

Edwin Johnson Waters

ON Sunday morning, April 2, at 5 o'clock, our brother Ted Waters (as he was familiarly known) was called home. The news was a great shock to all who knew him. He suffered a good deal during the previous week, but it was only at the end that those who were closest to him realised how serious was his condition. About two weeks previous a carbuncle developed on the spine which brought about his death. Our brother was the son of E. J. Waters, of Warragul, who was for many years an esteemed preacher amongst us. Ted was baptised in Wagga during a mission conducted by Gilbert Chandler, when he was



E. J. Waters, jr.

a lad of twelve. He heard and answered the call to the ministry of the Word, entering the College of the Bible in 1927 to prepare himself for the work, and graduating in 1930. He exercised two ministries in Tasmania, serving the churches at Devonport and Invermay. Returning to Victoria, he spent four years with the church at Mildura, after which he removed to Hamilton. Family health gave concern, and at the end of a year it was found necessary to return to a warmer and drier climate. As one who has since served at Hamilton, I know how highly he was esteemed there, and how saddened the church will be. Returning to the Mildura district, he labored with the two churches at Merbein and Dareton until his death. Funeral services were conducted by J. Lewis, preacher of the Mildura church, and the writer. A service in the Mildura chapel preceded the service at the graveside. The writer expressed brotherhood sympathy to the sorrowing ones, and spoke of our hope in Christ. There was a big attendance at both services, and many expressions of high regard were heard. Our brother never spared himself in his work. He had remarkable energy, and was always ready to use it in service. He was a forceful speaker, a true friend, and a devoted husband and father. He was naturally reserved, but those who knew him best found in him a large-hearted friend who loved strongly. For seventeen years I was privileged to be his friend, and I know how he valued friendship. To the sorrowing relatives, particularly his wife (formerly Miss Violet Thompson) and the three boys, we extend sincere sympathy. The gospel comforts, time heals, memory inspires, but there will always be a sense of loss now that Ted has gone. He was amongst us for only 38 years, but he has built for himself an enduring monument in the hearts of many people. Thank God for another good man. We will meet again on that glad day when the shadows flee away. Until then we toil on, knowing that what has been done has been done in love.—I. J. Chivell.

A CHOICE TEXT

"WHO comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

Northern District Conference, S.A.

A SUCCESSFUL conference of the Northern churches of Christ in S.A. was held at Balaklava on March 15. Four sessions were held with splendid attendances. The morning session was given to the presentation and discussion of the topic, "The Restoration Movement and Its Relation to Post-war Spiritual Problems." Wilkie Thomson presented the topic. The retiring president, D. J. Lawrie, presided at the meetings. The following were elected to office: President, A. Hutson; vice-president, W. J. Thomson; secretary, M. T. Lawrie; treasurer, R. H. Shepherd, and auditor Mal Roberts. The treasurer's report showed a good credit balance. After discussion it was decided to continue to support the scholarship fund. A. Hutson, secretary, had reported that several students had been assisted. The committee elected to handle the fund is—J. Harkness, W. J. Marshman, D. J. Daniel, A. Hutson and W. J. Thomson. A session beginning at 3.30 p.m. was given over to the presentation of brotherhood reports. A. Anderson spoke on the work of home missions and overseas missions, while W. Beiler gave a comprehensive report of youth work. The night meeting crowned a day of much blessing. Splendid addresses were given by the retiring president and K. A. Jones. The Balaklava choir of young people helped appreciatively at this meeting. A. Hutson was introduced to his new office, and he presented a copy of scriptures to the retiring president on behalf of conference. During the day opportunity was taken to welcome three preachers to the conference: A. Pigdon, Port Pirie; Wilkie Thomson, Long Plains, Owen and Avon; and Theo. Edwards, Moonta. Excellent meals were provided by the Balaklava sisters.

During the afternoon the sisters held their conference, and had a very fine meeting. Mrs. A. Hutson presided in place of Mrs. M. T. Lawrie, president. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs. A. Hutson; president-elect, Mrs. A. P. Russack; vice-president, Mrs. Theo. Edwards; secretary, Mrs. C. Rowley; assistant secretary, Miss Webb; and treasurer, Mrs. G. W. Bennett. Mrs. H. Bartlett, State president, addressed the sisters.—M. T. Lawrie.

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Vic.—Mr. C. L. Lang, 9 Arnott-st., Ormond, Or to J. Wiltshire, Fed. Hon. Sec., 140 Barrack-st., Perth, W.A.

"Conference is coming,
The work isn't flat;
Please be prepared
To help this and that."

DURING THE YEAR . . .

- (1) Scores have been baptised by Home Mission preachers.
- (2) Two churches, Georgetown and Canterbury-Earlwood, have gone self-supporting with full-time preachers.
- (3) Fairfield, new church started, self-supporting with student preacher.

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under all conditions and to share God's task
of meeting cries of need, brings the best
satisfaction.—G. J. Andrews.

THOUGHT

*It's easy to show hands and carry
resolutions, but better to show shirt
sleeves and carry them out.*

—Hugh Redwood.

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Printed and Published by the Austral Printing
and Publishing Company Ltd., 528, 530 Elizabeth-
st., Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.