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A Journal Representing

THE ENTRANCE OF THY WORD

Paul, in 2 Corinthians 2: 17,

contrasts his presentation of

the gospel with the talk of

those who corrupt the word

of God

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Churches of Christ

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Beware of Javern Keepers

TAVERNS, where food and drink are sold to travellers on the great highways of the world, belong to all the ages. Along the trade-routes of the ancient world they were built by enterprising men who saw an opportunity of making a living by supplying the travelling merchants with bread, wine and other sundry needs. Now the tavern-keepers were not of the same class of traders as the merchants who journeyed upon camels or horses from one country to another, carrying silks, jewels, spices, gold and perfumes. The latter were men of dignity who valued their reputation and sought, by the high quality of their merchandise, to gain the confidence of their customers; they conducted (we use the word in a wide sense to give it the turn found in the Greek) emporiums.

The tavern-keepers, as a class, became well known in the days of the ancient Greek civilisation for their sharp practices and dishonest dealings. They were parasites who exploited their position on the highway to make illegitimate gain. Food sold by them was inferior in quality, and their wines were watered. Eventually the name by which these men were known was used of any person who adulterated food and drink. Thus it became known that tavern-keepers were men who adulterated the pure and genuine, and made profit by robbing the real merchant.

PAUL may well be likened to a genuine merchant. He travelled the ancient highways, preaching the gospel and pioneering on behalf of the kingdom of God. Only

after considerable effort and sacrifice did he gather groups of Christians into churches in such places as Philippi, Berea, Thessalonica and Corinth. What great themes he used in his preaching may be inferred from the outline of the address he gave to the Athenians and from the letters he sent to the Corinthian church. He called pagans back to the worship of the true God in whom we all live and move and have our be-He told men of Christ, the Saviour, and how he had ing. fulfilled the predictions and prophecies of the greatest men of He urged men to seek to lay hold of the greatest thing Israel. in the world-divine love. He preached that the hope of the universe and of man rested upon the resurrection of Christ. He saw the coming triumph of the church in the universe. Paul perceived that it was his business to trade on the highways of life, in those big themes that belong to the ages, and not to be drawn aside to deal as the tavern-keepers of this world do.

We admire the quality of mind and spirit that enabled Paul to encompass the vast vision that God's revelation had set before him. He realised that the church's mission was not just to play a little part on earth's stage, but to take an important role in the working out of the destiny of the whole universe. Therefore, he could speak of the church as belonging to heaven rather than to earth. The



local church at Philippi could be looked upon as a "colony of heaven." Whatever emphasis he placed upon social questions, and he did discuss problems arising from man's relationship with man, he never allowed it to unbalance his presentation of the gospel. He cannot be accused of preaching a

social gospel; that is when "social" is given a particular twist in meaning as it comes trippingly off the tongue in these days of common talk of new orders. Paul did not preach the limited social gospel that is encouraged by the selfish motive of material security. Of course he did help those of his brethren in need, and urged the churches to relieve the poverty existing among the poor saints at Jerusalem; but over and above all he did and said for those of this age, he was concerned about the announcement of the good news that told of

the church's part in the ultimate destiny of the universe. He emphasised, not what will happen to society on decaying earth, but rather how the church/will fare in the eternal universe. He had a gospel of the universe, certainly not a limited social gospel, to preach. He was a merchant dealing in the big trade of life, not a tavern-keeper corrupting the truth.

A FTER Paul had preached in various centres, the grand vision of life as it was revealed to him by the Lord, then the "tavern-keepers" came; those who adulterated the truth; those who watered down what ought to be preached. Their subtle appeal to the natural inclination of the hearers won for them a temporary popularity. By making indirect attacks upon Paul, they sought to discredit his teachings.

For the most part they argued about little routine affairs that are related to flesh and blood. Their spiritual eyes were too weak to see the glory of a universe transformed through the actions of the triumphant church led by her victorious Lord.

The motives of such "tavern-keepers" who adulterated the gospel were questioned by Paul. Did they preach just for material gain? Did they strive to gain popularity? Did they work to worm themselves into high places? Whatever their motive, it would not stand an examination in the full light of (Continued on page 196)



E. L. Williams, M.A.

I. The Foundation of Life

1. The joundations of life are spiritual. Life does not lie. The parsons may lie; the press may lie; the politicians may lie; we all may lie -but life does not lie. It tells us that certain things will not work. We may argue that they will. We may try them, but the truth will out.

We simply cannot keep on doing things that the universe does not want done. If we do the result is disastrous—for us. There is a saying that when the egg fights with the rock the volk comes out.

Some years ago, when H.M.S. "Hood" lay at Port Melbourne, the little ferry-boat "Rosny" bumped into her. The battleship did not sink, but alas for the "Rosny."

A nation or an individual cannot ignore or reject the intangible, moral forces of life without disaster.

The laws of God are woven into the texture of the universe just as surely as the law of gravity runs through our material world. If we ignore the law of gravity when erecting a building, collapse is inevitable. In like manner, if we ignore the laws of God in building a life, a home, a nation, a civilisation, collapse of some kind is inevitable.

Long ago the psalmist cried, "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it."

By his intellectual power man has built up a vast superstructure, but it has collapsed about his ears. At the onset of passion and the beating of a drum, man has readily converted the machinery of civilised society, with its scientific refinements and elaborations, into a vast machine for the destruction of the civilisation. His ploughshares have been turned into swords, his food into ammunition, his chemissariat of war. So nation bombs, blasts, burns and blockades nation in a series of atrocities that inevitably belong to war and which render us speechless with horror and make us silent with shame and humiliation.

Life, on every hand, shouts aloud that its foundations are spiritual. "No great civilisation has ever outlasted the demise of its religious faith" for the simple reason that religion is the foundation of morality and morality is the foundation of life.

2. The hope of a clean life. As in all ages, young and old are beset with temptations. But war increases the strain, adds to temptation, lowers standards and encourages licence. Where there is a human factor there is no guarantee; but what provides the greatest hope of a clean life when our young people face life as it is

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Except The Lord Build

E. Lyall Williams, M.A., Victorian conference

president, delivered an address at the home mission rally, the substance of which we have been asked to present to our readers. The concluding

section will appear next week.

to-day, and when our young men are caught up in the military machine, with its temptations and strains too great to be borne by the many? Wherein lies the anchor of an unstained character? In deep, pure religion.

The blight of sexual licence, with its inertiable results, lies heavily upon society to-day. Many are the solutions that are suggested. Not least among them is sex education. Knowledge is the solution. None can reasonably deny the necessity of such education and the value of knowledge, but knowledge is not enough. Nothing will suffice save the knowledge of Christ, the redeemer and purifier of men.

3. The hope of redemption. Society is rotten --rotten with sexual licence, drunkenness, the gambling fever, lack of integrity and deadening indifference. And what can save the world from this spiritual lethargy and moral disease? Nothing save the deep revival of redemptive Christianity.

II. The Message of Life

1. The reality of God. It is claimed that at least fifty per cent. of the people of the western world to-day are "practical athelsts." They have no systematic philosophy; for practical athelsm is not a system of thought, but a mode of life. If God exists, he is merely a nuisance to be ignored; or if he exists he is not personal, but merely creative force or mind, a distant Deity far removed from this world and wholly detached from personal life. He is not a Being to be loved, worshipped and obeyed. He is in no sense a regulative force in life. The Malvern Conference findings begin with the statement that the world is suffering to-day because men have lost their sense of the reality of God.

The first clause in our message must be the reality of God—the reality of a Sovereign Lord, a Personal Father. Without God, life is without meaning and purpose. But no man is desolate who has God.

Is desonce who has con-2. The reality of sin. With the reality of God stands the reality of sin. The facts are too stubborn for the world to remove the idea of sin from its thought and the word "sin" from its language. Two world wars have shattered the easy optimism and superficial faith in the inevitable progress of man towards the goal of perfection. Truel man is a child of God, and is filled with great possibilities—possibilities for good or evil. Life is a constant tug-of-war between the tiger and the man, and man's defeats are all too obvious to be denied. Sin is a reality and the sinfulness of sin is emblazoned on all our tragic experience.

The message of life begins as a message of death. There can be no soft pedalling on this note. "The wages of sin is death."

3. The reality of Christ

(a) As the way, the truth and the life.

Christianity has often been disparaged as idealism; that is, as a system which sets up values or, ideals which are beyond realisation, which are detached from life, which are not to be applied in concrete situations where they may prove awkward, which simply won't work in the realistic world of hard facts. No doubt Christianity has been sometimes so represented as to earn that criticism.

In presenting the reality of Christ as the way, the truth and the life, we must boldly assert that Christianity is realism. That means two things. Firstly, that the values or ideals presented by Christ must be seriously applied to the whole of life and in every practical situation, however awkward. The cross must be removed from the hill of Calvary where it stood near 2000 years ago and set down in our hearts and lives to-day. Secondly, it means that it is only the way of Christ that works. It is vain to try any other way. If we do, as experience insistently tells us, we shall break ourselves and our world to pleces on the framework of a moral universe. People who unconsclously presume to know more than Christ tell us that 'the Christian ethic we stand by the Lord of life whose practical idealism is realism. "I am the light of the world," he said, "he that followeth me shall not walk in darkmess, but shall have the light of life" (John 8: 12).

In recent days representative conferences such as Princeton have declared the Christian principles which are the only foundation of a new world. Representations have been made to governments urging that these should be written into the peace treaties. It is time for the church to boldly assert itself and to say to the world, "If you ignore our warnings and reject these principles, we will reject your methods; we will not beat the religious drums of propaganda, sing your nationalistic songs, wave your national flags and applaud your military victories."

Christianity is moral realism. It is basically a way of life which essentially involves a new relationship between God and man, and man and man. Its ethic is comprehensive, applying to the whole of life, both individual and social. No department of life can escape the moral challenge of Christ. It is at once "thisworldy" and "other-worldy" in its hope and attitude. The things of this world are seen at once as significant and insignificant in the light of the eternal. The purpose of God is an eternal stream which flows through time and eternity. As such it gives us our hope, sets our task and imposes upon us our responsibility. Present and future, this world and the next, time and eternity are bound together in one inescapable whole by the eternal purpose of God, so that our moral cholces of today have eternal significance.

Christ is real and Christianity is realism in the sense that the final victory is with the kingdom of truth, goodness and love. The last word is with God. Victory is with those who give themselves in life and death to the eternal values.

eternal values. (b) As the Lord of life. Christ as the way. the truth and the life is the ablding reality among the fading unrealities of life. He is indeed the Lord of life. As such we must present him. His word is the first and last for us. His reality as Lord is not proved by orthodox professions which cry, "Lord, Lord," but by an obedience in which is manifested a new spirit, a new attitude, a new approach, a new outlook, and a new way of life.

(c) As redeemer. The reality of Christ as Redeemer is a vital part of the message of life. "God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himseli," He is the channel of God's grace by which man is forgiven, cleansed and given hope-by which we enter into conquest over sin, and fear, and death, becoming new creations in Christ Jesus.

It is often 'said that Christ, or Christianity, is the hope of a new world. But that may

(Continued on page 196) .

Queensland Plans Advance

Hugh Nichols reports on a busy conference in which

progressive aims were set before the churches.

"CHIEFLY notable was the spirit of love prevailing." So one leading member of the brotherhood in Queensland described the fist annual conference of churches of Christ in that State, held in Ann-st. chapel, Brisbane, from April 5 to 10.

It was certainly a busy conference, well at-tended and well knit—so busy in fact that C. F. Adermann, M.H.R., who has been elected president for the coming twelve months, moved that the business session, which has hitherto been confined to Friday, be held over two days-Friday and Saturday-a course of action which conference heartily endorsed.

In spite of the number of matters brought forward, the president (P. C. D. Alcorn, B.A.), shepherding the discussions in his inimitable way, kept the business up to schedule. His handling of the situation brought him allround praise.

The Social Service Committee showed it had vision for the future when the chairman (T. A. Fergusson) outlined a scheme for the establishment of a hostel for children of country church members attending the city for schooling. He said £500 would be re-quired to rent a furnished house with accommodation for eight children, matron, husband, and necessary helpers.

After considerable discussion, conference approved of the suggestion and referred it to a proven of the suggestion and referred it to a sub-committee comprising representatives of the executive, youth, home missions and pub-licity committees and the incorporation Board for investigation.

OVERSEAS MISSIONS

Overseas mission work ran into a lengthy report about China, India and the New Heb-rides. Monies for the support of workers had rides. Monies for the support of workers had gone forward to China. In India much good had been done during the year, and a num-ber of natives were won for Christ. Special ber of natives were won for Christ. Special amounts had gone to both India and China to aid famine relief. Record receipts, £9440, and record expenditure, £9019, were reported on June 30. Missionaries and workers were facing a difficult situation resolutely, and asked for prayers on their behalf.

Some thousands of pounds had been left by Miss Mary Ellen Tunstal to the Queens-land Foreign Mission Committee, which in-tended to earmark the money as a trust for ducting teachers and preschars for ownees educating teachers and preachers for overseas service.

Conference recorded its very deep gratitude to the secretary of the committee (H. W. Hermann) for the work he had done in past years in connection with overseas interests.

A. B. Clark spoke of the pioneering work done by Misses Eadle and Bentley among the aborgines at Norseman, and conference de-cided to send expressions of appreciation and confidence to the two sisters.

EVANGELISTIC MOVE

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EVANGELISTIC MOVE On the evening before the business session, at a brotherhood rally following a brother-hood tea at which A. A. Mills, representing the Council of Churches, and L. J. Jack, of the Temperance League, spoke, the president of the Women's Conference (Mrs. W. A. C. Wendorf) pointed out that vision was the great need in the church. Church business in the first conjury was even even great need in the church. Uniter business in the first century was evangelism, she said, and that was the church's business to-day. She encouraged the whole brotherhood in Queensland to do something worth while in the coming year.

As if in answer to her appeal, conference next day was unanimous in support of a move which gave a definite lead to evangelism among the churches in Queensland.

Conference decided that, deploring the lack of conversions, as revealed in the statistics presented in the Conference Executive report, it recommended to the churches:

1. An objective of 500 decisions for Christ by 1945 conference.

2. Intensive training of members in per-sonal evangelism, especially during the months of May, June and July.

3. Conducting of volunteer missions in every church, especially during the months of August, September and October.

4. A programme of training for new and old members, in New Testament teaching and practice, especially during the months of November and December, 1944, and January, 1045

5. Fullest co-operation of the Home Missions and the Literature and Publicity Committees with churches in this work.

6. That metropolitan churches co-operate more closely to save and advance small churches.

It was claimed that churches of Christ formed the spearhead of crusading Christianity, that their members were the commando troops of the Christian church, who needed to be a trained force that could move in on the enemy in complete unity. However, more recruits were essential.

HOME MISSIONS

In an appeal for home missions, the organis-ing secretary (H. E. Greenwood) told of his ang secretary (n. E. chechwood) tong of this sooo miles' travel during the year by train, jeep, lorry, car, bicycle, milk cart and on foot over the State, visiting churches and isolated members.

Farthest north was a faithful family 60 miles beyond Cairns, in a home on a lovely hill with a view of the Pacific, where bread was broken every Lord's day.

In some cases members who had not been contacted for 20 years were greatly appreciative of being visited.

Churches at Townsville and Mackay and the hospitals chapiaincy had been subsidised and the message of the plea given over the radio.

Discussing the home missions report, H. G. Payne pointed out that the Methodist Con-ference realised that the Far North was too big a problem for Queensland, and had made its church development a Federal matter.

It was decided to refer the position to Federal Conference.

The Home Missions Committee was also inthe route massions committee was also in-structed to investigate the possibility of using the League of 500 to purchase land for any proposed new church as well as for the actual erection of a building.

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YOUTH'S NEED The vital importance of the Christian edu-

The vital importance of the Christian edu-cation of youth within the church, and the urgent need for quickly adopting measures to reach the untouched and unattracted youth outside the churches, was stressed in the Youth Committee's report which detailed the numerous activities through which young peo-ple, were being interested and trained.

One avenue, the last Christmas camp at

Pialba, was used with telling effect at the crowded youth rally which opened the conference sessions.

The joyous spirit of the camp was recaptured, and its educative method re-enacted in an effective stage presentation.

Appreciation of Mr. Greenwood's work as corded. Tributes were also paid to W. J. Campbell, for his work as hospital chaplain, and A. J. Fisher as editor of "The Christian Echo."

Reporting on the Federal Conference Committee's work, the Federal conference com-mittee's work, the Federal president (Chaplain L. A. Trezise) called for strong Christian leadership, particularly after the war.

GENERAL

At his induction as incoming president, Mr. Adermann offered as a keynote for the year "Co-operation in the Work of the Cross."

On behalf of the brotherhood he made a presentation of a Bible to Mr. Alcorn in recognition of his services as president for the last two years. He also made a presen-tation to Mrs. Wendorf as retiring president of the Women's Conference.

At the preachers' meeting H. G. Payne made an illuminating review of work in Queens-land during the last ten years.

In his conference sermon, delivered on Easter Sunday afternoon, Mr. Alcon gave a masterly exposition of the stand of churches of Christ and their plea for Christian unity on the basis of the New Testament. The sermon was broadcast.

was broadcast. Excellent addresses were given during con-ference by various country preachers, includ-ing F. B. Stow (youth rally), V. G. Boettcher (Women's Conference), S. Vanham (brother-hood rally), Lars Larsen (conference devo-tions), Eric Hart (induction evening), and W. Gelzendanner (overseas missions rally).

At the Women's Conference reports of work in numerous fields were given, showing de-voted activity for the progress of the kingdom of God.

Next conference is to be held in the Ann-st. chapel, Brisbane, and the half-yearly conference at Toowoomba.

Officers elected.—President, C. F. Adermann, MHR.; vice-president, A. H. Berlin; secretary, H. E. Greenwood; assistant-secretary and treas-urer, G. J. Taudevin. Women's Conference. urer, G. J. Taudevin. Women's Conference.— President, Mrs. J. Harlen; vice-presidents, Mrs. E. T. Lade and Mrs. Machin; treasurer, Mrs. E. T. Lade; secretary, Mrs. O. H. Hardcastle; assistant secretary, Mrs. T. Kirkwood.

The Chaplain

SPIRITUAL guide To the men of our nation Who face a grim future For self-preservation: In the valley of shadows A shepherd you are Pointing as of old To a Matchless Star. Your rod and your staff When thunderclouds roll Bring comfort and hope To the disintegrated soul. You radiate God. Bringing strength again When men cry out For the Eternal Friend. Surely goodness and mercy Shall follow you And God add his blessings To the work that you do.

-Mayme Garner Miller.

The Thanksgiving Life

Hymn.-841, Church Hymn Book; 1053, Sankey.

Prayer.

Dear heavenly Father, as we open up thy precious word just now, we beseech thee to illumine its pages for us. Grant, dear Father, that in the words of the Psalmist we shall hear the voice of the living God.

Reading .- Psalm 106.

WOMEN'S PAGE

THE theme for our meditation is entitled, "The Thanksgiving Life." Not merely "thanks-ing" but a life of thanksgiving. The more one ponders on this subject, the more one realises its value to a happy, successful, fruitful, Spiritfilled life. Of all the Christian graces or at-tributes, maybe wholehearted thankfulness is the Cinderella. Thanksgiving should be as spon-taneous as the song of the bird—but how casual most of us are about this very thing! The most of us are about this very thing! The author of the psalm we have just read was a man after God's own heart, and yet he was full of human frailties. The word of God lays bare the story of David's life. Though it does not gloss its sins, it does reveal his contrition and confession that he had sinned against the Lord. Because our God is a God of love and of mercy, he forgave David as he has forgiven you and me many times. If you read through the Psalms you will find David frequently and spontaneously expressing thanksgiving and praise to God for his love and mercy.

Our Psalm opened with the exhortation to "praise God, for he is good, for his mercy endureth for ever." The knowledge of the goodness of God inspires trust in him, just as the business man or agnostic will trust one whom he believes to be a true Christian. Though he may sneer about God, he will trust very positively the man who trusts and believes in God.

David had experienced a very definite result in his trust in the Lord. He also had tasted of his mercy, the quality of which gave to his heart songs that have outlived the centuries.

Yes, we are casual in our thanksgiving. How often when we pass money over the counter for the everyday things of life, that money is not the only factor in the getting of that loaf of bread you must buy. Oh, no! Back of it all is the hand of a loving Creator. Though man might plant the seed only God, who orders nature, can cause that seed to germinate. Only God can give right atmospheric conditions, so that one tiny seed will produce much grain. Before you can get that loaf the material for the fuel to cook it must be produced by him. There is also the material that went to make the machinery to crush the grain to make the flour. And so one could go on, and always come back again to the fact that God is the great Provider.

What is the measure of our thankfulness for all the good gifts around us? What is the measure of our thankfulness for the greatest gift of all, the Son of his love? How often do we stop to think how different life would be if Jesus Christ had not come to take away the curse of sin? We could get a real picture of that in any heathen land

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where the people sit in darkness -where minds and hearts are as midnight, and fear and

superstition possess the soul. How often have we thanked him that the light of his love shone into our darkness? From the depths of our being let it be said: Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift, even Jesus.

A "thanksgiving life" would be a fruitful life, because the greatest incentive for service would be the knowledge of our debt of grati-tude to our heavenly Father. Yes, that the Lord Jesus Christ paid the price of "my" sins upon Calvary, and not only took away the sting of physical death, but settled for ever my eternal destiny, giving me a deed to a mansion, signed and sealed by his promise. That alone should be enough to make my heart burst with thanksgiving. But that is not all. There is never a moment of the day or night when I lift my heart in prayer fore him pleading on my bealf. Yes, I will give thanks to him, for his mercy endureth for ever.

Oh! there is so much to thank him for. We remember that lovely promise in Heb. 13: "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and to-day, and forever." How very real that made him. That One whom we read about, who walked beside the sea with humble fishermen, who entered the homes where death held sway, who healed the lame, the dumb, the deaf, and the blind, who went about doing good, under-Standing the sinner of every type-this same Jesus is my Friend. Can our lips ever be silent and refrain from exalting and praising him? Can our hands and feet ever again be slow to serve him?

The "thanksgiving life" is a Spirit-filled life, ecause it is in constant communion with him. The face of the grateful, thanksgiving child of God is always turned to him. That is the secret of the beauty of David's life; the man after God's own heart.

Let us not fail to give thanks to him then for everything. How many times we have travailed in prayer! How many times he, in his mercy, has delivered! How very quickly we forget his mercies. Oh, let us not be casual, but earnest and sincere in our thanksgiving.

Prayer:

WE do thank thee, dear Father, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, for what we have seen in this study of thy word and in the life of thy servant David. Oh thou whose name is love, and whose gift to a lost world was love, we come before thee with thanksgiving for all that that precious gift means to us. That the best that heaven could hold should take upon himself the sin of the world should take upon numeri the sin or the world and be sacrificed for us, is beyond our com-prehension. We confess before thee our own worthlessness and the unstableness of our human nature; but we do praise thy holy name because thou art ever faithful and true, hand because thou are even faither and true, and thy word, like thyself, will never change. Dear Father, give us grace so to walk that our lives will be lived in the poweer and presence of the Holy Spirit, that we may ever bring praise and glory to thy blessed name. Enrich us spiritually, and grant to us an enlarged vision and the spirit of thanksgiving for all things, for the thorny as well as the for an timing, for the third y as well as the flowery pathway. Keep us faithful, and help us to be worthy of all thy love and tender-ness towards us until thou dost call us into thy presence and to higher and greater service

vice for thee. In the name of the Lord Jesus and for his dear sake we ask it. Amen.

The devotional programme for this month was prepared by Mrs. Geo. Burns, Mosman, N.S.W.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Mrs. A. L. Read led the devotions, and spoke on the subject "Eastertide" at the sisters' auxiliary on April 6. Mrs. Bartlett presided over the business session.

The Hospital Committee reported 201 visits to institutions, hospitals and homes during the month of February.

Beware of Tavern Keepers (Continued from front page)

truth. This one thing Paul could declare; he had a sincere motive when he preached this gospel of the universe; it was not to win favor nor to gain material security. His motive would stand the test of being examined in the light of the divine truth manifested by the Sun of Righteousness.

This, then, is clear, namely: The church cannot afford to be a time-server: for she cannot anoth to be starts. The church must be enthusiastic about the big themes of the gospel, and preach them emphatically in season and out: only then will she perform her eternal ministry in this corroding social order existing on earth.

Except the Lord Build

(Continued from page 194)

be nothing more than a pious platitude. How is Christ the hope of a new world? Only when he is made real in life here and now by a serious acceptance of him as the way, the truth and the life, the Lord of life and the Redeemer. And the Christianity which is the hope of the world is not an abstract thing, but that which finds concrete expression in our lives. If it is not solving the problems of our personal life, our home life and our life in all its connections, then it offers no. hope to the world.

This, then, is the message of life-the reality of God, sin and Christ. These are the vital elements in the evangel which is a complete message for the whole of life. Evangelism is not tied to a method, or to special theories, or to a particular type of hymn, or to a single type of appeal. We are not necessarily evangelising when we erect a tent and engage a particular type of preacher and sing a specific type of hymn. And we are not necessarily failing to evangelise when we don't do that kind of thing. The evangelist is not neces-sarily one who holds and presents this or that theory of inspiration, or of dispensations. or the second advent, or the millennium, or a particular theory of the cross of Christ. He is one who earnestly, honestly and wholly declares the challenge and comfort of the mes-sage of life. He presents not theories but she or life. The presents not detories the certainty of the reality of God, the reality of sin and the reality of Christ as the way, the truth and the life, the Lord of life and the Redeemer.

HELPERS WANTED

THE trouble, I think, with us all,

- I is the lack of a high conceit;
- If each one thought he was sent to this spot
- To make it a bit more sweet,
- To make it a out more sweet, How soon we would gladden the earth. How soon we would right all wrong: If each one worked, and nobody shirked, To help his brother along."



Notes on Current Topics

Boy Gangsters

CITIZENS in Paddington and Darlinghurst districts, N.S.W., have recently been suffering from assaults by gangs of young hooligans. Paddington Council has been greatly concerned, and police assistance to disperse the bands has been sought. The formation of a citizens' vigilance or protective association has been mooted. Bad homes and the absence of parental care and discipline have been blamed for the basher activities. Mr. O'Sullivan (Minister of Transport and Member for Paddington) suggested to the Premier that to combat the menace a police boys' club be established in the district. This is a better approach to the problem, seeking prevention rather than a punishment which leaves the established with great success in various places. The "S.M. Herald" in a sub-leader referred to this better way of treatment—"the way of prevention, the diversion of youthful energies into healthy, recreative channels." It is good to note the newspaper's eulogy of the police boys' clubs, the spread of which in the metropolitan area it declares to have been "of incalculable value in checking juvenile delinquency and turning into good citizens lads who otherwise would have been headed for a life of crime." "The police," the paper adds, "have done a noble work of salvage among the boys of Sydney's crowded areas, and, especially under war-time conditions, their efforts merit generous official and philanthropic support."

The Cost of War

Two conflicting emotions come into the hearts of many readers of the daily war news -joy at the driving of the enemy further back from Australia and at the allied advances generally, and on the other hand, sorrow at the terrible cost of war in human lives. It is almost, unbearable to think of the numbers who have been slain, of enemies as well as friends. May the day of peace and goodwill not be long delayed.

Probably many readers were as surprised as I to note the reported statement of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of War Transport in Britain that the total number of people killed and injured on roads in Britain since the war began was 588,742, compared with a total of 387,996 of British killed, wounded and taken prisoner as a result of fighting. The figures, which seem extraordinary, may have a message of cheer in them; but they do not minimise the appalling cost of war so much as emphasize greater need of care upon the roads.

The Greatest Thing

I read recently the following words of Miss Ethel Barrymore: "I suppose the greatest thing in the world is loving people and—and wanting to destroy the sin but not the sinner." It is not difficult to trace the ultimate source of this thought. The Book of God has told us of the greatest thing in the world, and our Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Exemplar, has let us know of God's love for the sinner and his hatred of sin. The Son of man came not to destroy men's lives, but to save them. Were we all to catch the spirit of the Master, how beautiful a place the world would be!

A.R. main.

The Home Circle

J. C. F. Pittman

HE IS NEAR

"Sometimes I walk in the shadow, Sometimes in sunlight clear; But whether in gloom or brightness The Lord is very near."

FOUR LINES FOR £60

A^T a sale at Christies, London, £60 was paid for only four manuscript lines by Tennyson, being the poet's epitaph on Caxton for the memorial window in St. Margaret's, Westminster. Inspired by the famous printer's motto "Fiat Lux," Tennyson wrote—

Thy prayer was Light-more light-while Time shall last!

Thou sawest a glory growing on the night, But not the shadows which that light would cast.

Till shadows vanish in the Light of Light.

LIGHT EXCLUDED

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES, in his fanciful "Arrowhead Village," makes the resident doctor declare that students sometimes develop a third eyelid-the membrane common in birds-which serves to shut out all the light they do not want.

PERSEVERE

"YOU may have fallen a hundred times—you may have fallen to-day. Only do not despair; do not lose heart about yourself; try once more, try yet more earnestly, and God will help you and bless you."

FIND AN UMBRELLA?

Professor.—"I went to the railroad office today and got that umbrella I left on the train last week."

His Wife.—"That's good. Where is it now?" Professor.—"Eh? I—really, my dear, I'm afraid I left it on the train."

The Family Altar

TOPIC.-WHERE SIN REMAINS

2-	-Roman	ns 10):	1-15.	

- 3-James 2: 14-26.
- 4-2 Peter 2: 1-8.

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- 5-2 Peter 2: 9-22. 6-John 9: 13-34.
- 7-Proverbs 4: 13-27; John 9: 35-41.

T should be noted that whilst the blind man received his sight, those who witnessed the cure remained spiritually blind, the reason being that whilst the man acknowledged his blindness, the critics pretended to see. Therefore Jesus said, "If ye were blind" (or acknowledged spiritual blindness) "ye would have no sin; but now ye say, We see; your sin remaineth." So that only those who confess blindness receive sight, whilst those who say they see are in reality blind. If these critics had been deprived of physical sight their plight would have been bad enough; yet it is clear that their malady was infinitely more serious, for it concerned the soul and not the body. Confessing our spiritual blindness, there is sure hope for a cure. Claiming that we see, our sin remaineth.

Our Young People

W. R. Hibburt

CONFRONTING YOUTH WITH THE TASK' OF CHRISTIAN UNION

TASK' OF CHRISTIAN UNION WHEN young men and women ask questions a mental growth is in progress. Late adolescence is a period of intellectual reconstruction. It is a healthy sign when inquiries include Christian union. Leaders dare not dodge these questions. They require constructive answers. A friend of all who seek to lead youth, Frank C. Hunting, has anticipated the needs of leaders and prepared 'a book of 40 pages. It is more than a leader's handbook. We commend it without reserve as a class member's handbook also. It is suitable for group discussion work. Each chapter concludes with stimulating questions for discussion purposes. The questions could be used for assignment work, as the book in itself offers ample resource material to set the mind working on so great a question as Christian union. The title of the book is "The Vision that Made a People," and the treatment is set forth under the following six chapters: "The Christian World 130 Years Ago," "Christian Unity as Churches of Christ See It," "What the Modern Church Thinks About Christian Unity To-day," "Our Contribution to Christian Unity -Yesterday and To-day," and "Next Steps Toward Christian Unity." Copies may be had from the Austral Co. or from State book depots. The price is 6d; posted 7id.

CONFRONTING YOUTH WITH CHRIST

THERE are many ways of stating the aims and activities of a Young People's Department, but the above headline aptly characterises the work of our State departments. Evidence of this is revealed in that 726 made a decision to follow Christ during the conference year 1943-44. The world is continually contronting youth with enthusiasms, which leave youth without hope when the fire burns out. The Christ which confronts modern youth must be the Strong Son of God.

CONFRONTING OURSELVES WITH GRAVE FACTS

IF the church falls to capture the oncoming generation, it will go out of existence in one generation. The ultimate conclusion is evidenced in the trends of godless homes, Sunday a sports day and holiday, child delinquency, and declining Sunday school statistics. An adequate programme for youth and a consecrated, purposeful leadership will save the day. Our Young People's Departments are trying to overtake this need, but their efforts are jeopardised by the spasmodic support of congregations and the complacency of adults. Let the annual offering on May 7 disprove this statement. Our gifts this year should compel departments to advance their plans on a grand scale.



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April 26, 1944

Here and There

Stanton H. Wilson, of Launceston, Tas., has accepted our invitation to report each month on the religious activities in Tasmania. We look forward to his help from time to time.

In "The Christian Evangelist" of March 8, 1944, an American weekly of Disciples of Christ, it is announced that A. R. Main, M.A., has succeeded the late Robert Lyall as Australian letter-writer.

H. G. Harward

HUNDREDS of people (and not only those associated with us) will learn with sorrow of the passing of H. G. Harward on Apr. 17. Helpful messages will be recalled, clear and concise presentations of New Testament teaching, reinforced with passage after passage of scripture freely (and accurately) quoted from memory will be remembered. His appeals for personal decision and for holy living can never be blotted from the mind. The call to Christians to forsake all that is man made in their religion and unite'on the New Testament alone, will echo in the minds of those who heard him preach.

During the very impressionable years of life-while still a boy at college-it was my privilege to come under the influence of H. G. Harward. On his return from America in 1900, he accepted the call to the Fitzroy Tabernacle, and for about three years was the evangelist.

His eloquence and power as a preacher made an indelible impression on the writer. His knowledge of the scriptures and his insistence that therein lay the foundation of faith and the hope of growth in the Christian life, deeply impressed the young men and women of Fitzroy church.

He brought to us a new type of literaturesome at that time very novel, such as the "doorknob caller," and every street was systematically visited and people invited to the meetings. Open-air preaching, singing and detailed organisation were encouraged. Soon the building which held about 500 was filled every Sunday night, and the message reached out into many homes.

He preached with a purpose—that men should believe the facts of the gospel and accept the Christ, and demonstrate their acceptance by their obedience to the divine commands.

His conviction that he should give himself to the work of tent missions led him from Fitzroy to the larger work—his life work—of serving the whole brotherhood as an evangelist.

Looking back over the forty-odd years since we had this close association, the realisation is brought home that, outside the family circle it was H. G. Harward's earnest preaching and personality that gave to at least one young man the desire to preach and to serve the church and her Lord—J. McG. Abercromble.

Considerable interest has been aroused in the announcement that Princess Elizabeth, elder daughter of the King and Queen and Heir-Presumptive to the Throne, came of age on her 18th birthday, on April 21.

We note that A. A. Hughes, M.L.A., was one of the speakers at Religion and Life Conference held at Warrambool, Vic., April. 20. He said that the churches were closer together in their attack on social evils than on any other subject.

The Australian Christian Page 198 April 26, 1944 Dr. J. R. Wilson, secretary of the American Baptist Foreign Mission 'Society, in "World Call," says: "At the peak of the modern missionary effort, perhaps not more than from 28,000 to 30,000 Protestant missionaries were under appointment at any one time."

The church at Chatswood, N.S.W., rejoices in the splendid recovery of the evangelist, F. A. Youens, after recent operation. The sisters paid a much deserved tribute to Mrs. A. Graham, president of Women's Mission Band for ten years. Arrangements are well in hand for 30th anniversary of church.

Dr. Thomas, Bishop of Willochra, S.A., writing in his monthly letter said: "Instead of making promises of an easier time for everyone, it would be much better to proclaim the necessity for harder work on the part of us all in order to build up more wealth to replace that which the war is rapidly destroying."

The 89th anniversary of the Melbourne City Mission will take the form of a combined business and inspirational meeting, in the Melbourne Town Hall Reception Room on Tuesday, May 2, 1944, at 3 p.m. The Right Hon. Lord Mayor of Melbourne, Cr. T. S. Nettlefold, will be in the chair, and the superintendent's and honorary treasurer's annual reports, with the balance sheet for the year ended March 31, 1944, will be presented. Representative gentlemen will speak, and a short inspirational address will be delivered by J. Arthur Lewis, B.A.

Chaplain Laurie Trezise concluded his ministry with church at Ann-st., Brisbane, on April 16, and will serve the Forces in a forward area. On April 18 the church combined with Y.P.S.C.E. in farewelling and wishing him God's blessing. Thanks of church are extended to H. G. Rasmussen for occupying the pulpit for three of the four Sundays Chaplain Trezise was on holidays. Mr. and Mrs. Frank hunting and family were expected to arrive on April 21, Mr. Hunting to commence his ministry with the church the following Sunday. N.S.W. Churches of Christ Social Service Committee issues a monthly paper entitled: "The Voice in the Wilderness." In an article entitled "The Canker," in which the evil results of many films are discussed, the following passage, written by G. A. Atkinson, the film critic of the "Sydney Daily Telegraph," is recorded: "My opinion, based on long study and observation, and given with full sense of responsibility, is that the screen is the greatest crime builder of the day." If such is the case, is it not time for action to be taken to clean up such an evil? If people patronise bad pictures, they are helping to make a canker flourish in four midst.

From the British & Foreign Bible Society's annual report we take the following interesting news item: "Tibetan has become a recognised subject in some of the government schools in Free China, and books in that language are scarce. Consequently the exhibition of Tibetan scriptures in the shop window of Chengtu Bible House resulted in the entire stock of Tibetan New Testaments being cleared out. Still students keep coming to buy Gospels in Tibetan to assist them in the study of the language. J. C. F. Robertson, of the Bible Society, raises this point: These students are being prepared for positions of innor officialdom on the Tibetan border and in Tibet itself-will the language they use in their intercourse with Tibetan officials in the future be colored with the language and ideals of the medium they used in acquiring the power to converse?"

ADDRESSES

G. H. Eager (preacher Penshurst church, N.S.W.).-32 Moreton-st, Lakemba.

C. Hall (secretary Castlemaine church, Vic.). --7. Myring-st., Castlemaine.

S. E. Matthews (preacher Whyalla church, S.A.).-73 Brealey-st., Whyalla.

A. Midgley (secretary Wagga church, N.S.W.).

-22 Gormby-ave., Wagga.

C. Schwab (acting H.M. secretary, S.A.).-548 Sea View-rd, Henley Beach.

From Week to Week

At the recent Victorian conference loyalty to A the throne was expressed in word and anthem. I gather that similar loyal expressions were uttered in other State conferences. As a people we are anxions to show our love for our own nation, and we are glad to recognise, with due honor, those who are set in authority over us. Christ has taught us to render to the king all that belongs to him. Only when the earthly rulers interfere with the spiritual rights of man, as they have done in Germany, have we just grounds for refusing to obey them. Both Paul and Peter urged the Christians to respect the governors of the Roman Empire. Those leaders were not Christian and yet Paul considered them to be ministers of God, charged with the responsibility of maintaining order (Rom, 13: 1-7). Titus was instructed to remind his listeners that they must respect and obey their rulers (Titus 3: 1). Peter said, "Fear God, honor the king" (1 Pet. 2: 13-17). Remember that the kings of those days were less inclined to do what is set down in the Christian gospel than the present-day legislators of our Empire are. There was no suggestion that Christians ought to act in wars likely to be interpreted as disloyal then, so who has authority to suggest differently to-day?

Within our democratic State, rulers are appointed by the people. So long as their actions are in harmony with the accepted constitution of the country then we ought to respect them. If we refuse to co-operate, we take up a disloyal attitude; an attitude that cannot be called Christian in view of the statements made by Jesus Christ, Paul and Peter.

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If we are not satisfied with the way in which the affairs of the nation are being conducted, then we have the liberty to persande our fellow citizens to choose different rulers. Until that is done, we must be loyal to the chosen leaders. To suggest non-co-operation and disloyal demonstrations as ways which the church ought to follow is certainly not something I endorse. I believe my brethren will never accept such a course of action; not in view of their loyal expressions at recent conferences.

The Star

W^{1TH} the passing of H. G. Harward, another link with an important period in the history of the Restoration Movement has been broken. When he was a young man be went out with the mission tent, and conducted successful evangelistic campaigns in various centres in Victoria. His work was not confined to the southern State, for he went throughout the Commonwealth, also to New Zealand and to Great Britain, preaching the truths of the kingdom of God.

Many still speak appreciatively of his preaching and teaching talents. Mr. Carmichael, who died last year at Parkdale, Vic., used to tell me how he first met H. G. Harward. Both were working in a post office department in Melbourne. Mr. Carmichael took an interest in the new lad, and introduced him to his home at Collingwood. Eventually Mr. Harward became linked up with members of the church of Christ in that district. By a little act of kindness to a little-known lad a greater worker was brought into the church.

News of the Churches

Tasmania

Hobart (Collina-st.).—All Lord's day meetings are well attended. About 25 members attended Easter conference at Launceston, and are enthusiastic in praise of the beautiful meetings and spiritual uplift received. F. T. Saunders visited Hobart. He addressed a meeting on April 14, after which supper was served. On Sunday morning he addressed the church. In the afternoon he gave a talk at the Junior Mission Band tea, and was greatly appreciated. On April 2 Mr. Williams, of South Hobart Baptist Church, spoke at monthly Young People's Fellowship tea. At gospel meeting the Y.P. took part. Two new members have been added to church this month. A devotional meeting is held at the sanitorium each month. Mr. Hughes brings a bright message, and is much enjoyed by the patients.

Western Australia

Maylands.—During Easter the Y.P. Department camp was held in school buildings at Maylands. Morning service on April 9 was conducted by youth of various churches. President, T. Bamford; preacher, R. Hilford, both past ministers. Evening preacher, T. Bamford. Record attendances, great interest. Camp mother, Mrs, E. Black, sang. Mrs. Hill, from Kalgoorlie, was received in. Sunday, April 16, morning preacher, E. Sherman. A. McRoberts preached powerfully to splendid audience at gospel service. Mrs. Holtet sang. Mr. Michael was a welcome visitor after serious illness. Girls' Club and Women's Guild were addressed by Miss Roxburgh, of Norseman mission.

Queensland

Monkland.—On April 9 R. Culbert, A.I.F., presided, and a visiting Baptist minister exhorted. There was a good attendance at J.C.E. on April 11, when Mrs. Roberson took charge. On April 16 A. J. Fisher exhorted, giving an account of conference at Brisbane.

Gympic.—On Good Friday our C.E. society participated in a morning Easter rally which was broadcast, and at night we united in the procession of witness. Baptist ministers, present for the Assembly, addressed the services on April 9, there being one confession at night. The school also united with the Baptist school on Sunday afternoon.

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

OVER 300 ENJOY INSPIRING FELLOWSHIP MT. WALKER.—A day of fellowship and inspirtation was enjoyed by over 300 on Easter Monday, when diamond jubilee celebrations were held. A successful concert was held in evening, when many visiting artists were present, including J. A. R. Thompson, of Ipswich. Jubilee cake was cut by Mrs. E. Green, of Brisbane, the only surviving member of the first church in Mt. Walker. R. J. Clow, of Canberra, was chief speaker, he being the only past preacher present. Greetings were received from many others. Mr. Clow was preacher in the district 45 years ago. Young folk of the church were well represented in the Easter pageant, "In an Eastern Garden," held in Rosewood on Easter Sunday evening, where the building was packed. Church finance for year has been a record.

South Australia.

Prospect.—C.E. members had fellowship with Endeavorers of Northern District at their 50 year rally on April 12. A. E. Brown addressed the gathering. On Saturday evening Miss E. Falkenberg was married to Donald Scott. At services on April 16 addresses were given by

A. E. Brown. Good attendance in morning. Fellowship with many visitors and D. Sinclair (on leave) was enjoyed. At evening service Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ness rendered a duet. In-

spiring messages were given at both services. After service community singing was enjoyed. Forestville.—A young man confessed Christ at gospel meeting on April 16. Owing to absence of D. Hammer at Edwardstown West on Apr. 9, Stewart Lovell, of Unley, spoke in morning.

Whyalla—Since arrival of Mr. Matthews, who commenced his ministry on March 12, altendances at all services have increased, greater interest being shown by non-members. Sister Baker is home after her recent illness. Many visitors have been present during last month.

Cottonville.—Easter services were helpful, and well attended. A Good Friday communion service was held at 8 a.m., at which members from neighboring churches attended. Six young people's Easter camp at Stirling, and all have returned enriched for their experiences. Apr. 2 was Promotion Sunday at Bible school, when 15 kinder scholars graduated. On April 16, 50 scholars sang hymns over station 5 AD, and L. S. Parker (superintendent) gave a short message. Mr. Brooke is at Wallaroo recuperating after illness. In his absence S. Lovell and Senior Chaplain H. R. Taylor gave messages. 210 has been received towards thanksgiving offering, which will close late in May.

Brooklyn Park.—Attendance at evening services is improving. M.I.S. continues to hold pleasant evenings. Boys' Explorer Club is in healthy condition under leadership of Mr. Wilson and Les Bell. On Easter Monday Mr. and Mrs. Bell joined boys of club in a hike in hills. Compulsory attendance at Bible school of all members of Explorer Club has resulted in marked increase of lads of ten years upward attending school. Bible school has had record attendance for years. Interest is maintained by memory tests and quiz conducted by superintendent. Bible school was well represented at teachers' training class. Mrs. Pillar is uniting with the church again. There is improvement in health of Sisters Parry and Maxted.

Henley Beach.—Successful Bible school anniversary was held on March 26 and April 2. Speakers were C. Schwab, A. Anderson and A. R. Jones. Singing of the children was appreciated. The report read by the secretary, W. Tucker, revealed good work done during year. There were some fine attendance records. Marjorie Sleader completed eight years and Len Tucker ten years' unbroken attendance. Easter messages were delivered by Mr. Baker on April 9. At evening service Miss Francis Hutton sang a solo, and with Mr. Baker a duet. Sixty adults were at communion service on April 16. The church has enjoyed fellowship with Roy Lawrie, John Norris and Jack Olson, home on leave. Mrs, Ryder and Miss Jean Trotter are recovering from serious illnesses. Mr. Ryder is in hospital seriously ill.

New South Wales

Rockdale.—On April 9 H. Edwards, from Albury, gave a fine exhortation. There was a good attendance, several visitors being present, including a sister from Queensland and a sister in the Forces from California. At night Mr. Carter preached, and three young girls were immersed. On April 16 Mr. McMillan exhorted the church, and three girls were received into fellowship. Bible class room was opened. Mr. Carter gave the gospel message.

Paddington.—Mr. Greenhalgh's ministry closed on /April 16 with crowded meetings at both services. Morning service was a deeply spiritual one. Mr. Greenhalgh gave his final address, after which there were a number of confessions and rededications. At gospel service there was special singing by junior choir,

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and solos by Miss Walter. Mr. Greenhalgh preached a stirring gospel message, after which there were confessions by Bible school scholars and rededications by members. Good wishes of members and friends were expressed for success in his new sphere as youth leader.

Bexley North.—On April 9 J. Henderson spoke at both services. A young man reconsecrated his life at gospel service. F. Hunting gave farewell message to church on April 16, and after service the deacons made a small presentation. A. McAllister and B. Cavill made gifts to Mrs. Hunting for her wark as kinder superintendent on behalf of Bible school and Y.P. Fellowship respectively. J. Henderson preached the gospel to a good congregation. Teachers canvassed the district on Saturday afternoon, gaining several scholars. The sudden homecall of Miss Farquharson came as a shock. Sympathy is expressed to Mrs. Griffen and all bereft.

Lismore.-Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Oakes and C. Savill have held fellowship with the church while home on holidays from war work, Ladies'



The Lismore Chapel.

Guild held two successful coin afternoons at home of Mrs. Amos and Mrs. Newton. They also go to Base Hospital each month to visit and sing to patients. Endeavorers have held social evenings towards jubilee aim at homes of Mrs. Campbell and Mrs. Window. Sympathy of the church goes to Mr. and Mrs. Acland in the loss of Mrs. Acland's father, G. Davidson, who passed away suddenly at his home at Beverley Hills. Mrs. Oakes is again attending meetings after having been in hospital. On April 16 Mr. Acland, on behalf of the church, said farewell to Bob Savill as he enters the R.A.A.F.

Penshurst.—Un March 26 C. Byrnes concluded his ministry with the church after serving since commencement of church eleven years ago. Prior to this he had been Bible school superintendent for about three and a half years while the work was still in the Bible school stage. At a social evening held on April 1 Mr. Beekman made favorable comment on the work of Mr. Byrnes. A presentation was made to him and a welcome extended to Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Eager, who commenced their ministry on April 2 on April 2 and 9 Mr. Eager was speaker at all meetings to good congregations. Mrs. Fraser, of Marrickville, was soloist on 9th. Plans are in hand for a forward move, in all departments.

Inversit.—Mr. and Mrs. Burgin and family have returned from holidays spent at Urunga, During their absence services were conducted by Messrs. Young, Hall, Andrew and Goode. There was one confession and baptiam during

The Australian Christian April 26, 1944 Page 198 March. At annual business meeting all officers were re-clected, and A. Mackie and R. Smith were additions to official board. After long illness Will Cosh passed away on March 15. Sympathy of church is extended to his wife and two daughters. A successful Bible school picnic was held at Dean's Rock on March 18, A successful Bible school Minrichsen-Morris mission commenced on March 26, and the missioners are drawing splendid audiences. There have been a number of confessions, and interest continues to grow.

Victoria

Stawell.—On March 30 and April 2 Mr. Quayle was preacher. On April 9 Mr. Jackson spoke at all services. On Good Friday, En-deavorers and Bible school scholars visited the hospital and distributed flowers and text cards to all the sick. Several visitors were present on Easter Sunday.

Parkdale.—Good meetings were held on April 16, there being 90 present at morning service. On Wednesday afternoon, April 19, A. W. Stephenson received freewill offerings for the reduction of building debt. Over £100 was received. A short thanksgiving service was held at 8 p.m.

Bendigo.-Easter convention of united Christians proved a grand success, and £40 was handed over to hospital and benevolent home. Special services were held in all churches. On March 25 a wedding was held in the chapel, March 25, a wearing was here in the chapter, when Miss Nancy Pettigrove was married to L. G. Bennett, A time of great blessing is expected with the commencing of the three weeks' mission under leadership of V. C. Stafford. The church has welcomed several visitors.

Hamilton .-- Women's Mission Band invited mothers of Sunday school scholars to monthly meeting on April 13. There was a good re-sponse, and an enjoyable and profitable aftersponse, and an enjoyane and promate at the providence of the provi choir has assisted at gospel services recently. The church extends love and sympathy to Mrs. Waters, of Dareton, N.S.W., in the passing of her husband, a former preacher of this church.

The Tasmanian Conference

Thomas Hagger

AS a visitor to the recent Tasmanian con-A ference, which was the 48th held in that State, the writer would like to say that attendance thereat was abundantly worth while. The attendance was small compared to a Victorian conference, but then there are only \$52 enrolled members in that State.

A young man-Folliott T. Morgan-occupied the chair, and he presided in a way that would do credit to a much older man, with a much wider experience. With him was Roy Edmunds as conference secretary, who puts in much time and work at this office in a quite voluntary capacity.

Excellent meals were provided by the ladies on Friday, to which the delegates and other brethren did full justice.

The morning of "Good Friday" was devoted to a devotional service at which Stanton H. Wilson delivered an excellent and most help-ful address on "Him There." This seemed to be a good thing with which to begin the conference.

The home mission rally was held at night, which was attended by about 160 people, and

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was preceded by a song service conducted by T. J. Wilmot, with Mrs. Stevens at the organ. The offering for home missions came to £195. The following night, at the overseas mission rally, when there was a slightly smaller con-gregation, the offering made was file. Such giving was splendid and sacrificial. The social service rally on Easter Monday night was ad-dressed by C. P. Hughes, of Hobart, who dealt in a very plain way with the abominable liquor traffic traffic.

The writer left Tasmania with a very high opinion of the Tasmanian brotherhood, and convinced that in the island State there is a golden opportunity for the work of the gospel, and that it constitutes a glorious challenge to our preachers. Aggressive evangelistic work is needed; the State calls aloud for such.

[The general report of the Tasmanian conference will appear in our next issue .- Ed.]

IN MEMORIAM

STREADER.-In fond memory of my beloved husband and father, called home April 25, 1939.

"Beyond the mist, the dawn will come again." -Inserted by his loving wife and son Jack.

STREADER.—In loving memory of our dear father, and grandad, who was called home April 25, 1939.

"Years roll -on, but memories stay."

-Inserted by his loving daughter Eunice, son-in-law Cliff, and grandchildren Valmai and Graeme.

STREADER.-In loving memory of our dear father and grandfather, Alfred E. Streader, who passed away on April 25, 1939.

-Ever remembered by his loving daughter Lois, son-in-law Keith and granddaughter Ruth.

BOARD AND RESIDENCE

Above wanted in refined Christian home one suburbs Adelaide by business lady.-Apply F. Collins, Gurney-rd., Dalwich, via Tusmore, S.A.

COMING EVENTS

MAY 5.-Swanston-st., 2 p.m., Victorian Women's Conference Executive Council will meet. Leader of devotions, Mrs. G. Washfold. Reports from committees and general business.

LYGON STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST NEW CENTURY BIBLE CLASS. Every Sunday at 3 p.m. BIBLE QUIZ CONTEST, APRIL 16, 23, 30.

Six Opposing Teams in Novel Features.

VICTORIAN CHURCHES OF CHRIST MINISTERS' ASSOCIATION.

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, MAY 1, 2.30 p.m. Swanston St. Lecture Room. Speaker, C. G. Taylor, B.A.

Book Review:

Dorothy Sayers' "Man Born to be King."

CHURCH OF CHRIST, COBURG. CHURCH ANNIVERSARY, MAY 7.

11 a.m., Mr. E. Lyall Williams, Conference President.

7 p.m., Mr. W. Wakefield.

Soloist, Miss Amelia Scarce, BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY,

MAY 14-3 p.m., Mr. T. Fitzgerald.

7 p.m., Mr. W. Wakefield. MAY 21-

3 p.m., kindergarten demonstration.

7 p.m., Mr. Les. Brooker.

Cordial invitation past members and friends to come.

CHURCH OF CHRIST,

VICTORIA AVENUE, CHATSWOOD, N.S.W. 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.

Special Services:

Tuesday, May 2, 8 p.m., speaker, Hugh Paton. Wednesday, May 3, 8 p.m., speaker, R. B. Fraser. Thursday, May 4, 8 p.m., speaker, H. J. Patterson, M.A.

SUNDAY, MAY 7.

Home-coming Day.

11 a.m., Communion .- A. R. Main, M.A.

Thanksgiving offering for extinction of church building debt. 7.15 p.m., Evangelistic Service .- F. A. Youens.

Special music.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 8 p.m.

Social reunion of past and present members and friends.

Hospitality will be provided for all intending visitors on Lord's Day, May 7, if they will please advise the secretary.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, BALMAIN ST., SOUTH RICHMOND. 14 MAY 7-

45TH ANNIVERSARY AND HOME-COMING.

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.

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Mrs. W. F. Nankivell.

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A MAGAZINE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE. "PURE WORDS" Through Church Agent, 1/- yr.; . posted direct, 1/6. Pictures, Mission Notes, Stamp Collecting, Y.W.L. Items, Correspondence, etc. Samples on Application. Austral Printing & Publishing Co. Lid., 528, 530 Elizabeth St., Melbourne, Vic.

Centennial Celebrations in N.Z.

G. R. Stirling writes concerning the celebrations at Nelson, the

influence of a well-known family, and a young people's camp.

SINCE last report we have more interesting details of the N.Z. churches' centennial celebrations held at Nelson, where our work was commenced in 1844 by Thomas Jackson's preaching of the New Testament gospel in Trafalgar-st. Highlights of the services' are as follow:-

140 people attended the public meeting. This was presided over by George Page, former Mayor of Nelson and first Sunday school scholar. The Mayor of Nelson brought the congratulations of the city, and addressed the meeting. The other speaker was Percy Bolton, one-time preacher and secretary of the N.Z. foreign mission work.

At the Sunday morning service 198 broke bread. The special speaker for the occasion was Milton Vickery, N.Z. church historian and a vice-president of the World Conference of Churches of Christ.

The best attended meeting was the Sunday gospel service with 450 people crowding into the School of Music. These included representatives of other churches of Christ throughout the Nelson Province, many of whom were able to get into Nelson because so many Nelson people laid up their cars for a considerable period to allow these country people to use the petrol saved. Ray Blampied, Nelson preacher, addressed this meeting, during which there were six decisions.

On the centennial Sunday the first instalments of the special centennial year thankoffering were received. The aim for the year is £1000. So far £271 has been received. The purpose of the offering is to cominence extension work at Stoke.

The Dickens Family

Older members of Lygon-st. will remember the Dickens family. One of the sisters was Mrs. D. M. Wilson (Jeannie Dickens), of Western Australia. Two of the sisters have been prominent pioneers and workers in Nelson. Mrs. F. V. Knapp (Mary Dickens) along with her husband commenced Sunday school work in Nelson a half a century ago. Mr. Knapp, then a prominent schoolmaster of the district, continued as superintendent for 35 years. Although failing in health, he has just passed his 81st birthday, and was able to take a keen interest in the celebration of the centennial. Mrs. Knapp was the special speaker at the centennial Sunday school re-union.

During the special centennial period the other of the two Dickens sisters in Nelson, Mrs. Telenius, passed away to be with the Father. She was Elizabeth, the oldest of the Dickens family. She and her husband were amongst the pioneers of the work at Spring Grove, and founded the Sunday school at Wakefield, which they conducted until the death of Mr. Telenius. In the Telenius will £300 has been left for preaching the gospel in Wakefield.

Nelson Centennial Camp

In spite of rail restrictions over the fiftymile limit, and in spite of the cancellation of the centennial conference, the centennial dominion camp for young people was held. 136 campers from Wellington, Nelson and West Coast districts attended. The theme studied was, "Shaping the Future in the New Century." This theme was also followed by about 250 other campers scattered in district camps in Auckland, Gisborne, Westland and Otago.

Special speakers at Dominion camp were D'Arcy Woolf, who is doing a successful work at Motueka, and Ray Blampied, the popular Nelson preacher. 250 people attended the Easter communion service, and 350 people overcrowded the Nelson church building for the gospel service, at which three of the campers decided for Christ.

Home for Jews

Roy Raymond, our Western Australian correspondent, refers to a meeting

in which justice for Jews was urged, and also to the State conference.

A PUBLIC meeting, organised by the Australian-Palestine Committee (non-Jewish section) to protest against the operation of the British Government's while paper of 1939, which virtually forbids Jews now to enter Palestine, was held in Perth during the month. There was a large attendance, including manymembers of Parliament, the Anglican Archbishop, the Lord Mayor, the Mayor of Fremantle, and the Chancellor of the University, Professor Walter Murdoch. A resolution in sympathy with the purpose of the meeting, and appealing to the Commonwealth Government and to the Government of the United Kingdom to withdraw as soon as possible the restrictions on Jewish immigration into Palestine, was carried unanimously. The principal speaker was Dr. S. Lowy, official representative in Australia of the Jews of the world had come under the brutal regime of Hitlerism. According to official sources, over 3,000,000 Jews had physical destruction of European Jewry was proceeding. Professor Murdoch, chairman of the Australia Palestine Committee, said they had heard too much perhaps about the Jews. It was a question more of human beings. enthusiasm and passion to do something about the horrors and atrocities perpetrated by the Nazis? He said meetings were 'being held throughout Australia in which voices were being raised in protest against the Palestine immigration ban.

Conference

Conference this year was characterised by record attendances. Every public meeting and every session of conference was marked by exceptional gatherings. Our only interstate visitor was A. Anderson. He has been with us before on more than one occasion, and has always done us good, but on this visit his every address was a masterpiece. For the most part the selected speakers for the public meetings were our younger men. There was a notable absence of the older preachers from the platform. Listeners were loud in their praise of these addresses. My own thought, as I heard these men, two or three of whom are recent arrivals, was that such men would be a decided asset to the preaching forces of any communion in any State. If our college can continue to supply us with such men, we shall have much for which to praise God. In responding to the welcome at the preachers' session, A. McRoberts—a graduate from Glen Iris and now doing a good work at Maylands

--said the outstanding impression made upon him here in W.A. was the number of small churches with attendances of 50 or 60 which were paying full-time men to carry on the work; paying them well, too, as preachers are paid. He thought this was a courageous thing. There is not now one subsidised church in the metropolitan area, and there is only one church in the State reporting average attendance morning or evening in excess of 100.

Personal

It was a real pleasure to meet H. H. Strutton when he passed through Perth on his way home from India. Through the courtesy of Mrs. J. Wiltshire, a few brethren met Mr. Strutton in her home. This great ploneer of our work in India would have completed flfty years mission work in that country if he had remained there only a few weeks longer. He is full of vigor, and looks forward to returning to India.

D. R. Hill has left W.A. to take up work as an itinerant preacher in Tasmania. Mr. Hill has served the cause here as well as in England, Canada and South Africa. We believe he is eminently fitted for the work to which he has been called in the island State.

. E. R. Sherman, preacher of Inglewood church, has been elected to the office of president of the C.E. Union of W.A.

Fremantle church reports that on a recent Lord's day morning there were present in the congregation the mothers of five of our preachers. All these mothers, with one exception, are members of Fremantle church.

Brotherhood Hospital for W.A.

FIFTY members of the metropolitan church sat down to a dinner at the Y.M.C.A., Perth, as the guests of the board of management of the Bethesda Hospital on Monday, April 17. R. Raymond is chairman of the hoard C. R. Burdeu is secretary; other members are the matron (Sister B. G. Hill), W. S. Bown, and E. E. Nelson. At the dinner the board announced to the gathering its desire to make this hospital a definitely churches of Christ institution. It had under offer a magnificent property equipped as a forty-bed hospital, delightfully situated on the river and adjacent to Stirling Highway in Claremont. This property will cost £8000. Of this amount £4000 must be paid down with balance payable at £750 p.a. at 5 per cent.

To our joy the response to our appeal was all we could desire. £4066 was made available, about half of which was on loan free of interest and the rest free gifts. The board will proceed to purchase the property. The hospital will provide first-class service in a Christlike manner. The same grade of service will be available to all irrespective of the patient's ability to pay. Profits will be available for better services and for benevolences at the discretion of the board. The present hospital situated in Subiaco has rendered excellent service, and its assets will serve to assist the board in the larger work. The hospital is incorporated, and donations to it are a lawful deduction from taxation. -The institution is accepted by the Taxation Department as a henevolent work.-A. Raymond.

"IF I knew the light of a smile Might linger the whole day through, And lighten some heart -With a heavier part * I wouldn't withhold it; would you?"

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Practising Christian Unity

THE Christian Medical Association of India serves a very useful function for all mission hospitals in purchasing medical supplies and in helping in a general pooling of ideas. Because of its work, medical work has been co-ordinated, and greater things are planned after the war. Dr. G. H. Oldfield has helped greatly in furthering the interests of this association, and has now been honored by being asked to act for a period as manager of the Supply Agency in Bombay for part of the period the manager is on furlough in England. The experience gained will be of value to the doctor, and our own mission, and give valuable contacts, as well as show

ments for the cause of Christ, Giving a short time to this work will not affect our own work at Dhond, as Dr. Oldheld can make periodical visits and be ready at all times to advise.

BIBLE CLASS FOR DEACONS, AOBA ON Tuesday and Friday night, I take a Bible U class for the deacons. Last night there were about twenty here. We are studying the Ephesians. They appear to understand it. The epistles are valuable because of the very In equiptics are valuable because of the very direct teaching of Paul about the abolition of the law of Moses. This aids these men to counteract the false doctrine of the S.D.A. teachers who are still giving us trouble in many villages. When Mr. Finger recovers he is going to do an itineration of the Aoba vil-bage. lages. He will probably have to do it on foot as the big launch is unserviceable until the engine is overhauled by a mechanic, the big-end knock remedied, and metal run in the cylinders. They need many visits—one a year is not nearly sufficient. There is full-time work here for a missionary visiting the villages. At four visits a year per village, at the rate of a village a day, that would entail a full year's work. There are still many villages that I have never even seen. When were our people on Merilave Island visited last? They asked for teachers, but none can be sent. We have not any trained. I estimate that we should have fifty young men in training at the mission school to meet the needs of the next few years, But how can we do it without the means either to transport food to Nduindui or the gardens at Nduindui? We have two good schoolrooms. We received food and medicines on the January steamer, so we are getting along all right that way. Most of the hurricane season has gone now, and our health should be better as the cool weather comes."-Ron. W. Saunders.

HIGH CASTE WOMEN IN RETREAT

MRS. T. ESCOTT tells about the retreat held for women, 1944, now becoming an annual event.

Forty Women in Attendance

"I should have held the meeting last August, but owing to early rains, and they were heavy, there was so much work for women, and such high wages, that no one was free to come. Then, a fortnight ago, they sent word through the Bible-women that they would come when I called them. We planned for January 10. Twenty-four women altended the first morning meeting, then thirty came, and on the Wednesday the women of our Wednesday gospel meet-

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Dr. G. H., Oldfield.

ing came too, bringing the number up to forty. Forty high-caste Hindu women, listening to the gospel message, repeating texts and hymns as though they were children! Some brought their children, most of them old enough to take part in repeating what was taught. Three of the number attended the last meetings, and when, on account of Thursday and Friday being Hindu feast days, I said at the close of the first meeting, 'There are two days of feasts this week.' Yes,' one replied, 'last time we came and listened for five days.' I said, Yes, but your feast is on.' Never mind the feast; we shall come on Friday—that will be four

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.

days; let there be one day feast.' As last year, being caste women, I could not give them meals while they were here, so they brought their food each day, and I gave them in pice (cash) what would be about the value of the food and wood to cook it. (Wood like everything else is very expensive just now.) They were very happy and grateful, and thanked me for calling them to come.

Women Desire Further Teaching

"A few days later, the Bible-women met some of them as they were working in the fields. They left their work to speak to the Biblewomen, and said, 'The words we were taught remain with us; but if only we could live nearer, so that we could always be hearing, it would be very good." How I would love to have them often, but they have to work to help to keep the home fires burning. Please continue in prayer for these women-many of them have very sad lives."



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NOT without reason has Australia been called "The Land of Freedom," but this freedom has only been won by the amazing spirit of selfsacrifice and determination of the front-line troops, for whose valiant efforts no praise can possibly be adequate.

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" Praise, My Soul" (A HYMN FOR APRIL-No. 52, APRIL 30)

THE place of Henry Francis Lyte as a hymn-writer would rest secure on one hymn alone, for few indeed have such a hold on the English-speaking world as "Abide with me." But he wrote many hymns, our book using four in all. Lyte seems happier with a "starting point" for his verse for, out of 105 of his in one list, 86 are psalm versions and several others are modifications of material from other sources. Most of his surviving hymns are from the fine versions in "The Spirit of the Psalms," where few are close renderings, the poet seeking rather a few verses which he can mould to his purpose.

As a gauge of popularity, most ballots of favorite hymns have only a local or a limited favorite hymns have only a local or a limited significance. More indicative of usefulness is the number of times a hymn is used in the praises of the church. Analysing the hymns used in 3000 church services, the English "Methodist Times" found a few years ago that Lyte's "Praise, my soul, the king of heaven" stood in third place. Reminiscent of our No. 333 or of "Pleasant are thy courts above" (versions respectively of Psalm 67 and 104), it is a free rendering of Psalm 103. But it has more than the "usefulness" sug-But it has more than the "usefulness" suggested by the census referred to. With ex-pansive views of God's majesty, grace and love, Lyte in places combines the utmost com-pactness and delicacy in expressing them. The hymn-lover or the Bible-lover who sets side by side Psalm 103 and our hymn 52 will readily see, with what great ability the accomplished author carried out for the singing church his labor of love !- F.J.F.

Obituary

W. E. Brake

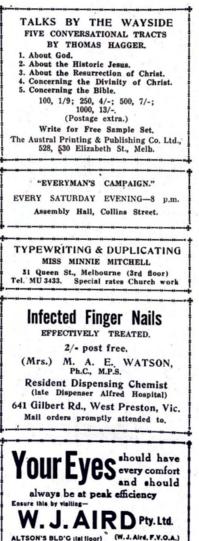
BORN in Milang, S.A., Waldon E. Brake passed to "rest in the Lord" on March 28 at 64 years of age. He was married and im-mersed with Mrs. Brake in Norwood church by S. G. Griffith in November, 1909. Later moving to Wood's Point on the Murray, they, with a few others, set up the Lord's Table, and "bore witness to the truth" weekly in barn and home. In 1923 Mr, and Mrs. Brake, Miss Lorna (of Grote-st.) and Elliott (A.I.F.) moved to highly valued fellowship amongst the pioneers of Murray Bridge church. Waldon Brake has left an example of faith and fortitude, serving "loved the church and gave himself for it" for 35 years.-N.G.N.

Walter Gillam

 $0^{\rm N}$ April 6, at the age of 71, Walter Gillam was called home from a service he had or was caned nome from a street of years. rendered to others over a number of years. Our brother first became associated with the church while residing in Caveside district through the preaching of the late W. J. Way. After coming to Launceston, he met with the church at Margaret-st., and later became a trustee and foundation member of Sandhill church, which assembly he enriched through his consecrated prayers and faithfulness until his death. For ware, our brother contributed his death. For years our brother contributed to the preaching service of the brotherhood, both in his home church and in other assemblies, and .in his early days often travelled long distances under adverse circumstances to fulfil his appointments. Mr. Gillam will be missed by the poor of the city of Launceston because of his active interest in the work of the City Mission and the In-as-Much Mission, with which he labored. S. H. Wilson led the funeral service at our late brother's home, and at the graveside at Westbury, where the large attendance of friends bore ample testi-mony of the respect in which Mr. Gillam was held. Sympathy of the Tasmanian brotherhoad is extended to his widow and brothers.-T.O.

Mrs. Ada Hunter

ONE of the best-loved and most gracious Christian personalities in the person of Mrs. Ada Hunter (wife of W. Hunter, of Bradley's Head-rd., Mosman, N.S.W., passed peacefully to be with her Lord on the evening of March 16. Our sister was the daughter of the late Dr. James and Mrs. Kingsbury, of Enmore. Mrs. Hunter was born at Brooklyn, New York, U.S.A., and was baptised at the age of 18 prior to her coming to Australia with her parents. To the sisters of the church she was especially dear, being a loyal and earnest member of our Ladies' Church Aid, of which she was vice-president at the time of her death. Mrs. Burns expressed the affection of the sisters at the service in the chapel. The funeral was conducted by the writer, and the large company of friends and relatives indicated the loving esteem in which our late sister was held. She is sur-vived by her husband and three children, Ken, Doug and Dot (Mrs. Sindle), and by eight grandchildren. To have known our sister was to have loved her, and her gracious influence will be felt in the church in the years to come .--G. Burns.



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Life's Valiant Choice

(John 5: 6)

JOHN, who got closest to Jesus and was an eye-witness of his ministry, was moved to portray him as inspirer of mighty choices. Upon a Bethesda scene of vague hopes, midst a preponderance of misery, Jesus entered with fresh inspirations even for the loneliest, and issued his audacious challenge—"Wilt thou be made whole?" He ever addressed men as persons, never as machines or clods. The persons, never as machines or clods. The challenge is answered and life's valiant choice is made to-day, by the likes of one stricken in youth with infantile paralysis. A sym-pathiser said, "Affliction does so color the life." "Yes," she replied, "and I propose to choose the color." Such souls rise above self-pity to something heroic and wholesome.

Choice of Christian wholeness is justified by reason of God's reservoir and river of power. Jesus bears witness to the infinite, available energies of the Father. Indeed, in his own being he opens the sluice-gates and brings a river of life pouring down into human experi-He does more than explain evil, he ence. brings power to overcome it, to fight the good fight of faith and lay hold on eternal life.

Moreover, the choice is sustained by a host of challenging witnesses—glowing personalities, Christian achievements, spiritual experiences, and the world's best literature, especially the scriptures .- G. J. Andrews.

THOUGHT

The silence of a wise man is more wrong to mankind than the slanderer's speech. -Wycherley.

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Heroes All

Anzac Day stirs again the memories of Australia's national heroes; men who dared all to serve king and country.

We pause and pay tribute to their imperishable memory.

Without detraction of them, it is fitting to remind ourselves that peace hath her heroes no less renowned than war.

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