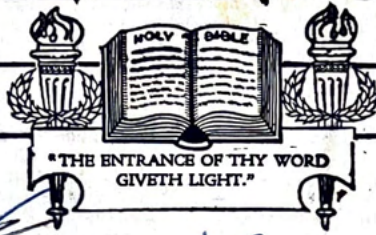


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WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 1944

~~THE NATIONS' BOOK~~ *Examined*

WORD of God — the grand
unveiling

Of his glory and his grace:
When the lamps of earth are
failing,
Here is light for all our race.

Word of truth—through all time's
changes

Its glad messages abide;
Homeward, past earth's cloudy
ranges,
Still our footsteps it will guide.

Word of wisdom for the erring;
For the weary, word of strength;
Sure and steadfast hope conferring,
Daily all the journey's length.

Thy good news to every nation
In its own tongue now declare,
Till the Author of salvation
Find his homeland everywhere.

Word triumphant — spread thy
pinions,

Take from land to land thy
flight,
Till the earth's distraught dominions
In the love of God unite.

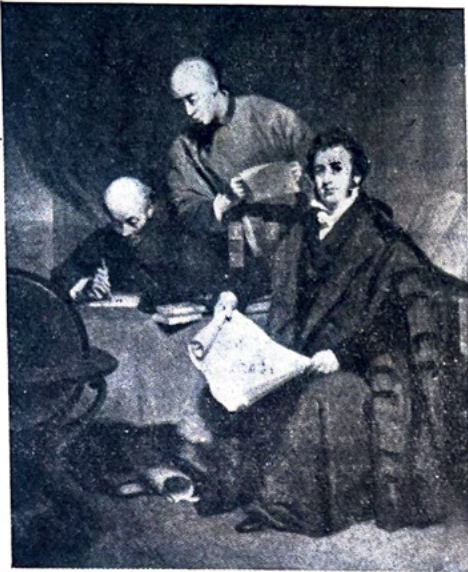
—H. Elvet Lewis,
"The Bible in the World."



Strength for the nation and joy for home are found in the Bible

The Swiftly Running Word

S. Russell Baker, Victorian secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, writes an interesting story of the rapid spread of the Bible throughout the world.



Dr. Morrison and his assistants translating the Chinese Bible.

"His word runneth very swiftly" (Psalm 147: 15). The emphasis here is upon "his"—"his" word—which is the word of God. The swiftly running word is God's word. It is "his" word that is characterised by speed and motion.

The words of men to-day travel fast too. Radio, telephone and air mail are the instruments that quicken their flight—yet the word of God has wings too—and is fast encircling the whole earth. So that the Psalmist proclaimed a striking truth when he made the declaration of our text, "His word runneth very swiftly."

The Apostle Paul asked prayers of the disciples in order that the word of the Lord might "run and be glorified," and their prayers were gloriously answered.

"Within a short time after Pentecost, all nations had heard the word of God, so that Paul could say, "Have they not heard? Yes, verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the end of the world."

"Like the coming of the morning, the word of the Lord shone forth under the whole heaven right speedily."

And to-day we see the same thing happening.

A writer in the "New York Times" magazine recently said:

"The Bible has more readers to-day than ever it had before. It is read on battlefields all round the globe. It is read in countless homes where it may once have gathered the dust of neglect. Lonely people, burdened people, despairing people, search it for strength and courage. Anxious people seek light for judging these times of spiritual tempest and earthquake. They want to understand the foundations of the good world we are toiling and dying to save. And those foundations are the teachings of this book."

By far the greatest single factor in the world for the fulfilment of this text is the world-wide activity of the British and Foreign Bible Society, which has translated the scriptures into 758 languages and dialects, and circulates over 11 million copies of God's word annually. And though the work of Bible distribution has been dislocated by the war, the word is still running swiftly. Large circulations are reported from India, Africa and South America. Even in occupied China, information has filtered through of a circulation of 1,200,000 Bibles and portions of scriptures; while in Europe there is increasing evidence of interest in the Bible. The work of circula-

tion of the scriptures goes on, too, in the Far East and the New East, and the islands of the world; and it is reported that more Bibles were sold in America last year than in any previous year of its history. In spite of war's distractions, too, the pen of the translator has been busy, and seven new languages have been added to the society's list, during the past twelve months.

Much of the carrying forth of the word is done by the colporteur.

The Bible Society has always believed in the colporteur and his work. From the earliest days the colporteur has been busy at his task of commending the scriptures to the people of the country in which he works; and to-day the society has in its service more than a thousand colporteurs.

Through the 140 years of its history the Bible Society has provided continuous evidence that God uses the colporteur to convey to countless numbers of people the book which shows Christ to be the Lord and Saviour of mankind.

"A detachment of the A.I.F. were encamped in the Syrian desert. Suddenly a cloud of dust, which might veil the movements of an enemy, was seen approaching. The men stood to arms expectantly. Were they at last to meet the foe? A sigh of mingled regret and relief arose as it turned out to be a solitary Arab on a heavily-laden bicycle. It was evident that he had something to sell, and the men crowded round. To their surprise his box contained scriptures—the visitor was a colporteur of the British and Foreign Bible Society. The Bibles were gone in the twinkling of an eye. They had passed through many places mentioned in its pages and wished to learn more about them. Even those who had no money were satisfied, for they were presented with a khaki-bound New Testament, provided for all Service men. Soon the colporteur was speeding over the desert—again, having disposed of all his stock. The cloud of dust surrounding him grew less and less as he disappeared over the horizon."

Special opportunities of distribution come in war-time as well as special hindrances, making the Psalmist's words appropriate again, "His word runneth very swiftly."

Born during the Napoleonic wars, the Bible Society, from the first, regarded it as a paramount duty to provide the scriptures for the fighting forces, and for prisoners of war; and all through its long history has rendered similar service in similar circumstances. Whenever and wherever the country has been at war, during the last 140 years, the Bible Society has been there, and the present war is no exception. Since its outbreak more than 2,000,000 copies of the Service New Testaments have been given out, and have gone to every land where our armies are stationed—to the Navy and the ships of the Merchant Service sailing the seven seas, to the Air Force operating at home and abroad. Prisoners of war and internees have gratefully received the book of comfort.

It is divinely intended that the Bible should run swiftly, for it is the only book for all mankind—of every clime, in every time—and at every stage of culture.

It is a most remarkable thing that this collection of books (history, poetry, prophecy, devotion)—all written during a period of some 2000 years, and ending nearly 2000 years ago, by members of one of the smallest peoples of the earth—should have so gripped the

(Continued on page 233.)



Bible Society stall at Book Fair, Lisbon.

Mr. J. R. B. Love and natives translating.

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Centenary of a Great Adventure

ONE hundred years ago a young man of twenty-nine paid his first visit to the East. There he made a momentous discovery. Ten years ago, to secure the fruits of that discovery for the British Museum, the people of England raised nearly £65,000 of the £100,000 paid to the Soviet Government. To-

In March, 1844, Constantin Tischendorf set out on a journey to the East which led later to the discovery of an ancient manuscript of the Bible. C. G. Taylor, B.A., tells a fascinating story of how the Codex Sinaiticus was found.



Where the Codex Sinaiticus was Found. Above is St. Catherine's monastery on Mount Sinai, where Tischendorf discovered the Codex Sinaiticus, purchased for the British Museum in 1933.

day, "enclosed in two stately volumes with white morocco backs and stout boards of English oak," it is closely guarded as precious, not to one race alone, but to all mankind.

The man was Constantin Tischendorf; the fruits of his discovery, the Codex Sinaiticus. But let those weighty names deter no one. They are forever linked in one of the truly great romances of history.

For he was a true romantic—that young man

Facing the East

on March 14, 1844. Already his name was made as a scholar in search of ancient manuscripts. In Italy he had pored over the oldest known copies of the scriptures. It was easy to dream of what might be awaiting him in the East. "I go forth with cheerful confidence," he wrote to his brother, Julius. "It cannot be a delusion which dazzles me. . . . Nor does hope fail me as to the success of my researches with respect to manuscripts. It is thence that Europe has derived its riches, and many a monastery still contains unexamined recesses. Should I never return, I know that I shall have fallen in a worthy cause. The warrior falls upon the battlefield; you know my field of battle, and if this is to be its termination I shall find the heavenly in seeking the earthly Jerusalem."

It was

Not Death But Destiny

that awaited him, and in the place of which he dreamed—a monastery. Fittingly enough, it was to Sinai he came at last, to the grey-stone fortress of St. Catherine's monastery. That morning of May 24 was not one to be forgotten easily. He was awakened by "the camels singing their morning song, and that chiefly in an incomparably deep bass, though a jumping tenor was kept to it by the bleating of a few goats!" In the shadow of the monastery's 40 feet walls he was greeted by loud cries and firing of arms. He established his credentials and was drawn up by rope to the door, set 30 feet high in the walls. Then the bizarre gave place to the beautiful, for he found himself in a paradise of cypresses, pomegranates and orange trees. The eighteen inmates of the monastery accorded him the most gracious hospitality (though he had his doubts of the superior, who, "notwithstanding the delicacy of his features bears the strongest expression of duplicity in his glance." Young Constantin had already learned not to take all in the East on its face value!) He noted with interest that Schubert had visited there seven years before, and written in the Strangers' Book: "As long as I live I shall remember the days spent here with joy and gratitude." An unforgettable experience was his own climb to the summit of Sinai on Whitsun morning. "'God cannot make a mortal so happy,' said I to myself. That instant should have been the last of my existence."

But he had good reason later to be glad that it wasn't, for there at St. Catherine's he found his destiny—found it, fantastically enough, in a waste-paper basket! He discovered the monks were feeding their fires with old waste-paper which, to his mingled horror and delight, he found to be leaves from an ancient manuscript of the Septuagint (the Greek Old Testament). He hastily salvaged the remaining 43 leaves and, with the monks' ready permission, took them away with him.

Two years later he published their contents, but without any hint as to where his discovery had been made. He was determined to secure more from the same source, for, though much must have been ignorantly burnt, he felt sure other leaves could be found in the monastery. Attempts to secure some through the good offices of a friend at the Egyptian court failed completely; the monks had awakened to a sense of values. He made a further personal visit in 1853, but found the monks very taciturn. All he secured was one sheet containing only eleven lines of Genesis. But Constantin Tischendorf was not a man easily deterred. He returned in 1859, this time backed by a commission from the Czar of Russia. Still the monks refused to divulge any secrets. But then came

The Great Discovery

On a tour of inspection with the steward, Tischendorf showed him his own edition of the Septuagint. He could scarcely believe his ears when the man answered that he himself had a copy of the Greek scriptures, in-

cluding the New Testament. Constantin had learnt his lesson and concealed his excitement. But it was almost too much for him when the steward took him to his cell, and showed him, wrapped in a red cloth, a large pile of loose leaves. They had neither beginning nor end and were minus covers and binding, but Tischendorf had never seen anything more wonderful. For the steward had spoken the truth: here were not only most of the Old and New Testaments, but books of the

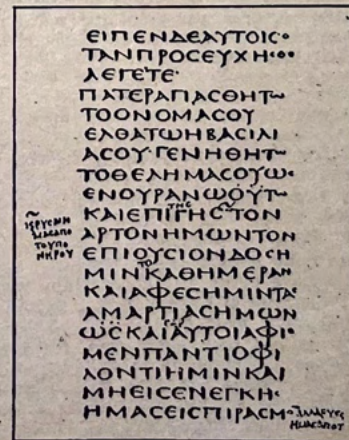
Apocrypha as well! He obtained permission to keep the manuscript that night, and sat up through the hours (all too short for him!) copying the most important parts. "It seemed sacrilege to sleep!" he said later. He wanted longer use of the manuscript but one monk objected. Undeterred, he went to Cairo and persuaded the Patriarch to order the manuscript to be sent there. That done, Tischendorf copied the whole of it. Finally the gifts of the Czar overcame the monks' obstinacy, and the whole manuscript was presented to that sovereign and placed in St. Petersburg. There it remained until the British Museum purchased it in December, 1933.

We turn our spotlight

From the Man to the Manuscript

and it is not hard to understand Tischendorf's enthusiasm. It remains of priceless value as being one of the oldest Bibles in existence in book form, written on material known as vellum. This material is of interest in itself. There is none in existence of older date than 320 A.D. True vellum was calf-skin, but the vellum of this famous Bible seems to have been made from a mixture of sheepskin and goatskin. By various rubbing processes it has been made quite thin, though there may be considerable variations in thickness, even in one leaf. But, generally speaking, it remains tough and in good condition, apart from the effects of moisture, and the hot glue used in binding. Successive bindings have reduced the size of the sheets, but they are approximately 15 inches by 13 inches. Evidently three scribes undertook the writing of this Bible, and their styles of writing help to fix the date at about 350 A.D., the same time as the so-called Codex Vaticanus, long a prized possession of the Vatican. An attractive theory holds that these two copies were included in the fifty vellum Bibles ordered by Emperor Constantine in 331 A.D. from Eusebius, Bishop of Caesarea, for the new churches of Constantinople. These two

(Continued on page 233.)



The Lord's Prayer (Luke 11: 2-4) from the Codex Sinaiticus.

In the margin the petition "and deliver us from evil," originally omitted, was inserted by a corrector.

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Notes on Current Topics

The Home Circle

J. C. F. Pittman

BECAUSE the alleged liquefaction of the blood of St. Gennaro, patron saint of Naples, was late this year, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Naples stated last week: "We can expect a visitation, a disaster, or a catastrophe." So in this year of grace 1944 do gross superstition and ignorance prevail in papal circles.

A Mother's Influence

On Mother's Day honor is paid to those whose life may seem to have a narrow range, but whose influence may be extensive. I recall G. W. E. Russell's words concerning Mrs. Gladstone: "Her full nature spent itself in channels which had no great name upon the earth, but the effect of her life on those around her was incalculably diffusive." In humbler spheres there are hosts of Christian mothers who place church and nation under a great debt of gratitude for their elevating and sweetening influence.

Talks at the Lord's Table

While many very helpful talks are delivered by brethren who have the privilege of presiding at the Lord's Table, there still is a considerable number of presidents who are apparently in need of advice regarding their words of introduction to the Supper. I have frequently written of the inappropriateness of a president's thinking that he should deliver an additional address to that of the brother planned to speak. A brief introduction of the emblems is all that is needed. The president's remarks should *always* be on a theme related to the memorial feast; yet we still frequently have addresses on unrelated subjects, as if the purpose were to give an independent exhortation. There are many crowding thoughts which harmonise with the

occasion, and many scriptures to which reference may fittingly be made. Better far to be content to read one of the records of the supper's institution than to give a poor or discursive speech. Instruction to those aspiring or invited to fill the presidential chair might well be given by elders and preachers.

The Radio Message

With interest and much pleasure I listened to a broadcast address on April 30 by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne. Mr. Medley had as his chief motive the improvement of church broadcasting. The churches had not yet properly learnt the technique of this comparatively new means of propaganda. Broadcasting of the ordinary church service was not very effective. Long addresses of the usual type were also found wanting, nor did church buildings seem to be suitable places. The speaker recommended hearers to read the broadcast series by Dorothy Sayers. Mr. Medley's remarks on these points were interesting, but my chief pleasure was in hearing a Vice-Chancellor of the University urge church people to get back to the teaching of Jesus Christ and in the tribute he paid to the New Testament. To make it convey the message of the New Testament in language which will attract the attention of men is indeed the highest use of radio. Whether we are dealing with faith or morals, with religion or ethics, we cannot advance beyond the teaching of the Book of God. Our country needs it, for, as Mr. Medley asked, "Can we imagine a better manual of citizenship than the New Testament?"

A. R. Main

Our Young People

W. R. Hibburt

"COCOA BILL"

WE share with readers a typical airgraph letter from our boys in the Services. It has not been edited in any way, because we do not want it to lose its freshness, pal spirit, and homeliness. Don, referred to in the letter, is a prisoner of war in Europe. "Cocoa Bill" and the writer of the letter are brothers who left behind a successful business to play a man's part in the world conflict. Let every letter that comes to you from the young men and women in the Services be a stimulus to prayer on their behalf.

Dear —

Good morning to you all; yes, this is that Y.M.C.A. bloke again, sending you greetings and hoping you are all keeping in the best of health.

Since I last wrote you I have had a change from the hostel and am now at base camp and in charge of the Lowry Hut.

It was quite a hard job to leave the hostel, but as I have never turned down any request made on me for a change, I just packed my bags and came back here.

So far it has been quite good, for I have had the good fortune to meet some of our church boys. Have had daily visits from Eric Winterburn; he is just waiting to catch a ship home. Poor Eric has had his share of the front line, and has been graded most probably out of the army.

Have also met Stan Edwards; he is now off the hospital ship and is here in camp. Lloyd Jefferies, of Motueka church, is another boy here; then Keith McKenzie, of Invercar-

gill, and Harry Murray, St. Andrew-st.

We had a prayer meeting the other night, and of the twelve present five were church of Christ boys. It is great to be able to meet and chat to some of our own boys; it is so different, and we all have something in common with each other.

Had a letter-card from Don the other day; he is quite well, but was feeling the cold very much. Won't it be a great day when we will all meet together again? We are all praying it will not be long before that reunion can take place.

I have to thank you for your letters and all the news you send me; it is greatly appreciated. I am afraid I have not answered them all; they sometimes come when we are busy, and we put them to one side to answer later, then we forget all about them, and it is too late to do the job. Still I want you to know that I am very grateful to you for writing so regularly.

August seems to be doing a great job somewhere up in the Islands; he has been nicknamed "Cocoa Bill." "Bill" because they couldn't manage August too well, and "Cocoa" because he is always handing out cocoa.

I haven't answered your letters, nor have I given you any indication of the work that is done here, but I will do so at a later date. Paper is finished and time almost gone, so once again I will say cheerio to you all and the prayers of all your boys over here are with you.—Noel,



HE IS NEAR

"OFT when I seem to tread alone
Some barren waste with thorns o'ergrown,
Thy voice of love, in tenderest tone,
Whispers, 'Still cling to me!'"

A FINE TESTIMONY

"I THINK so often of the beautiful story of Michael Faraday. In his dying hour some fool whispered to him, 'What are your speculations, Mr. Faraday?' In astonishment he said, 'Speculations! I have none. I am resting on certainties.' Then he quoted Paul's climax, 'I know whom I have believed.' We should be thankful for our Saviour, who is Christ the Lord, through all the hard times; thank God for the Book; thank God for the Christ. All's well if we have them."

THOUGHT FOR OTHERS

"WHEN Count Leo Tolstol lay dying in the little railway station, I was deeply touched, as thousands of other people must have been, to read that, when he recovered consciousness for a brief time, and saw around him nurses and doctors and friends, he said, 'Why are so many of you around me when there are so many other poor sick people in the world?' Even in death he remembered Christ's poor brethren."

MINISTRY OF SONG

"BLEST ministry of sacred song!
Tender, serene, sublime,
Our hymns' of prayer and praise belong
To every age and clime.
O never shall our hearts forget,
Though long and far we roam,
Loved words, to old loved music set,
That breathe of heaven and home."

"Is McIntosh a typical Scotsman?"

"I should say so. He's saved all his toys for his second childhood."

The Family Altar

TOPIC.—THE SAVIOUR'S LAMENT

May 22—Matt. 11: 25-29.

" 23—Mark 1: 40-45.

" 24—Hebrews 4: 14-16; 5: 1-10.

" 25—1 Peter 3: 8-18.

" 26—1 John 3: 13-24.

" 27—John 11: 1-16.

" 28—2 Sam. 22: 21-34; John 11: 17-29.

SURELY these two words, "Jesus wept," contain "multum in parvo," an inestimable wealth of meaning expressed in the Bible's shortest verse! As our Saviour wept over the great city whose inhabitants were hastening to their doom, so now, full of compassion for the two sorrowing sisters, Jesus mingled his tears with theirs. And though exalted to the highest heaven as our great High Priest, he is still very near in spirit to sorrow-stricken souls, "touched with the feeling of our infirmities." Although about to raise LAZARUS, he wept tears of sympathy with those whose sorrow would soon be turned into joy. And even so, though he will in his own good time raise our loved ones from the tomb, he comforts each grief-stricken disciple with his loving, tender compassion.

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Queensland's Drink Bill

P. C. D. Alcorn, B.A., our Queensland correspondent, writes an able summary of religious and moral news in his State, referring to the need of better housing conditions, the co-operation of American and Australian churches, and better religious training.

THE Australian Temperance Advocate reports that for the financial year 1942-3 the Queensland Drink Bill totalled £7,583,820, an increase of 22 per cent. over that of the previous year, and 97 per cent. greater than the 1940-41 period. The yearly average of convictions for drunkenness in Queensland is 10,000, the most competent authorities estimating that 3000 of these are "new" convictions. The most pathetic part of the business today, says Mr. Jack, general secretary, Queensland Temperance League, is the fact of the large increase of drinking among young women; aye, some of them church workers, choir members and others who have apparently lost their way in this connection. What the temperance forces maintained has been proven correct, the introduction of beer in camps has merely added an extra facility resulting in increased consumption and an acquiring of a taste for beer by many who otherwise would never have dreamt of entering a hotel bar. Mr. W. N. Cock, president of the Australian Temperance Council, eloquently summed up the liquor traffic and its consequences thus: "Vice is stalking through the land and lawlessness is naked and unashamed. Ruthless greed is rampant and the sacredness of personality is despised. The primary source of this polluted system is a vicious monopoly known as the liquor traffic."

The "Temperance Advocate" is to be commended for giving its readers before the last election a list of candidates worthy of the support of temperance voters.

Housing Conditions

The housing problem is again before us. Miss Edna Hill, a former director of the Lady Gowrie Pre-school Child Centre, said recently, "The conditions under which many Brisbane people live are a challenge to the community. The conditions reveal the extent to which we, as members of the community, are willing to accept or reject our social obligations and responsibilities. It makes the situation all the more deplorable when we find that the majority of these rat and vermin infested, white-ant eaten and inconvenient homes are owned by business firms and by men who are even looked up to in

our community." Miss Hill was speaking at a combined meeting of the Queensland Congregational Union.

U.S.-Australian Minister Exchange

Dr. Loyal L. Wirt, of Claremont Congregational church, California, recently returned to Brisbane for a brief visit. He said that the Federal Council of Churches in America, representing 39 Protestant denominations, felt that it was time there was a closer fellowship between America and Australia, and asked him to open the way for an exchange of preachers between the two countries. A comment has been made that should such an exchange be arranged, men midway in their career, who would be more open to receive and able to pass on the benefit of their experiences for some years to come, should be selected.

The Council had also asked him to consult Australian missionary authorities about calling a great missionary conference for the Pacific area before the war ended—if possible in the next year—to plan post-war missionary efforts in the Pacific islands. The conference would discuss the allocation of Pacific islands to various American, Australian and British missionary societies, the building of a missionary ship to service all the missionaries in the Pacific, and to carry personnel, books, food and agricultural implements; also the establishment of a united missionary training school (probably in Honolulu) for native teachers.

More Religious Training

Marked improvement in the religious consciousness of education officials had been noticeable since 1927, said Mr. De Burgh Griffith recently. Facilities for religious instruction had been made in State High Schools, lessons were included in the papers of the primary correspondence schools, instruction of school children was regarded as an important subject at theological colleges. He also stated that the manager of 4BC, Brisbane, had informed him that the Radio Sunday School from 4SB, Kingaroy (which was inaugurated by our conference president, Mr. C. F. Adermann), was the largest Radio Sunday School in the world.

The Swiftly Running Word

(Continued from page 230.)

imagination and stirred the heart of mankind all the world over. Books very quickly get out of date, whether they be scientific text books or ordinary books. Yet in the Bible we have a text book of spiritual knowledge and experience, with its roots going far back into the primitive history of man, more popular and more widely circulated than any other book in the world. Homer has been translated into twenty languages, Shakespeare into forty, Thomas a Kempis's "Imitation of Christ" into forty, Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" into 125; whereas the Bible Society alone has not only issued the Bible in 758 languages, but has volumes of 260 other tongues on its shelves.

It will be profitable to us all to remember what C. H. Spurgeon once said: "The almighty word of God reaches and renews the heart, and the more it is allowed to work in an unencumbered manner, in its own natural simplicity, the more victorious it will be. The word of itself runneth very swiftly, and carnal wisdom doth but hamper it. Oh, to let it lay aside every weight! I could wish that men would take oratory by the ears, and hang it up like a felon; for it has been the plague and curse of the church of God that men try to speak finely and prettily, garnishing their sentences with poetic flowers, and polishing them with needless elaboration. Preach you the gospel, sir, for that is your business. We are not place-hunters who must please if they would win, but soul-hunters, who seek not to amuse men, but to save them. Tell out God's own word in such words as your heart suggests. Pluck up by the roots the flowers that grow in God's field, and go not to the conservatory of learning and art to gather your fine posy. God will bless his own word; for it is his word which runneth very swiftly."

With the coming of peace we may look forward to gathering up all the loose strings of organisation—to the return of the whole array of colporteurs to their routes again and to a maximum output of the printed word so that every possible advantage may be secured for the realisation of the swiftly running word.

Centenary of a Great Adventure

(Continued from page 231.)

manuscripts together form the great sources of the "Neutral" text on which the English Revised Version is based—hence their great meaning for our age.

The Codex Sinaiticus is by no means a perfect copy of the Bible. Many leaves have been lost; others have been pulled out, apparently at random, for old bindings. Those preserved show very poor workmanship on the part of one, at least, of the three scribes. Spelling was certainly not among his arts! But that same atrocious spelling helps experts to believe these early copies of God's word were written from dictation, and that in turn illumines our whole conception of a book-seller's work-room in the fourth century. It has been suggested this actual copy was never finished, but laid aside as unsaleable. If this were so, how strange the irony of its destiny! Some leaves have been wet so that the ink has run; on others are traces of grease, fallen from how many devout students' candles as they have pored over the text!

Are we wrong, then, in saying that this story of a man and a manuscript is one of the great romances of history? We do well to remember the centenary of Tischendorf's first discovery. That done, we turn to face our world again. May it be with that same untiring zeal in the eternal quest for truth, and God will bless us too, as he blessed this man and this manuscript!

The Divine Library

COME and read God's Holy Word

And make its treasures thine.
The Holy Spirit will unlock
The Library Divine.

Sixty and six of Books there are
Within its covers bound;
Each gives its testimony clear
To mysteries profound.

Except to those of childlike mind
The Word of God is sealed,
But unto such who humbly seek
Its secrets are revealed.

O make the Word of God each day
A Lamp unto thy feet,
A Light unto thy path alway,
This Holy Book complete.

O search the scriptures prayerfully
And make this treasure thine;
Then spread the Word of Life abroad,
The Library Divine.

—R.C.S.

The Australian Christian

Here and There

Mr. and Mrs. Hagger are back in Melbourne after a trip to Tasmania and South Australia.

There was a baptism at Glenelg, S.A., on evening of April 30. Douglas H. Pike is the preacher there.

The following telegram reached us on May 10: "Magnificent finish Hinrichsen-Morris mission, Inverell; 70 decisions; offering £560; over £300 surplus.—Goode."

We are sorry to learn that W. B. Blakemore, B.A., who was a former preacher at Perth and Swanston-st., Melbourne, and now in his homeland, U.S.A., is suffering from the effects of a stroke.

We learn that H. J. Patterson, M.A., has been appointed principal of the N.S.W. Bible College. We congratulate our brother on this appointment, and wish for him many years of happy service.

The poem on the front page was written by Dr. Elvet Lewis, the well-known hymnologist in both English and Welsh. It was written with special reference to the work of the British and Foreign Bible Society. When in London Dr. Lewis was a vice-president of the society.

Chaplain G. O. Tease has been enjoying fellowship with churches in the Newcastle area (N.S.W.). At a camp church parade on May 7, there were 36 who confessed faith in Christ. We are glad to learn of the good work chaplains are doing among the men and women of the Forces.

Church anniversary services at Coburg, Vic., on May 7 were marked by splendid congregations and thankoffering. *E. L. Williams was speaker at morning service and W. Wakefield at night. In addition to anthems by choir at evening service, Miss Amelia Scarce sang two beautiful solos. Many members are unable to attend meetings because of sickness.

Young people assisted in service at Bamberd, Caulfield, Vic., on May 7, when three were immersed. Speakers at church anniversary on May 14 were S. R. Baker and B. J. Combridge; soloist, Miss Alison Lyon. Special thanksgiving offering reached £42. Mr. and Mrs. P. Jones were received by letter from Bentleigh, also three by faith and obedience. Bible school has commenced house competition with much enthusiasm. Youth offering to date, £11.

At Paddington, N.S.W., there was a good attendance at morning service on May 7. Mr. Wilson gave a fine address. Gospel service was special for youth. Singing by junior choir was enjoyed. The message was delivered and scripture portions recited by young men. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson were welcomed on May 4. An address was delivered by Mr. Ladbrook, and the induction by Mr. Paternoster, Messrs. Dale, Davis, R. Wakeley and Dean took part in the service. Members of auxiliaries also gave welcome messages.

Youth auxiliaries at Surrey Hills, Vic., celebrated Mother's Night socially and happily on May 12; many mothers were present. Morning service on May 14, conducted by G. J. Andrews and assisted in his sermon by three young people, was greatly appreciated. Youth offering progressive total, £14. At 5 p.m. youth tea, Mrs. Waterman was guest speaker at a fine gathering of young people. Youth had a prominent part in gospel service. There were three confessions. Miss Burton, from Clontarf, W.A., was amongst other Service visitors. Jack Dickson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Les Dickson, has reached Great Britain after obtaining his R.A.A.F. commission in Canada.

At a recent meeting of the Joint Council for Religious Instruction in State Schools, Victoria, Mrs. Doris H. Peart was appointed to the position of secretary for 17 years. The widow of the late Mr. G. E. Peart, who held

the position of secretary for 17 years. The council formally received into the new office of Director of Religious Education in State Schools Rex Mathias, M.A., Dip.R.Ed., and he will be instituted into his new office at a special service in St. Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday, May 30, at 7.45 p.m. The Archbishop of Melbourne, Dr. J. J. Booth, and other church leaders will take part in the service. The director will deliver an address, and all who are interested in religious education are cordially invited to attend.

After struggling against ill-health for some time, Mr. Brooke had a relapse after evening service at Cottonville, S.A., on April 30, and on May 1 he was admitted to Royal Adelaide Hospital. He has been ordered absolute rest, and it will probably be upwards of four months before he can resume his work. The church has decided to support him financially during his illness. Average church offerings for April, £8/8/9. After Bible school on May 7 a tea was attended by 50-60 young people from school, and teachers and officers. Dr. Turner, from Park-st. church, gave a talk. Mr. Schwab gave the message on May 7 in morning, and a youth service was held in evening, when scholars sang and youth took part in the service.

At a social evening at Camberwell, Vic., on May 10, to mark commencement of Mr. and Mrs. Williams' second year, a campaign to provide £500 for a new school hall was launched. £270 was the response, and it is hoped to reach the objective. Bible school had an attendance of 124 on May 14—a record for many years. Communion service was specially well attended, and there was a large gathering at gospel meeting. This was followed by an illustrated address by C. Cole on the work of Sudan missions. Two young ladies confessed their faith. The church is delighted at appoint-

ment of the secretary, B. F. Huntsman, for a third term of office as chairman of Youth Department. The week has been one of rejoicing and happy experiences, and a fine fellowship prevails.

VICTORIOUS LIFE CAMPAIGN AT BENDIGO

FROM April 24 to May 12 a victorious life campaign, under leadership of V. C. Stafford, made a decided contribution to the spiritual life of Bendigo. The Temperance Hall, in which the church met for many years before the present building was erected in 1916, was chosen as the location of the meetings. The meetings were well advertised through handbills, screen slides and the local press. From the outset it became plain that Mr. Stafford's constructive presentation of aspects of Christian truth was directed to build up Christians and to urge non-Christians to think of Christ and the church. While no initial decisions for Christ were recorded, many testified to the blessing which came to them individually. Excellent publicity has been given to the church by the daily summary of addresses given in the local paper. The Sunday services were held in the Short-st. chapel, when large audiences attended. The church is particularly grateful to the Cheltenham brethren for releasing their preacher for this effort, which has abundantly justified itself. All expenses were met by the thankoffering which was received on the last night in the hall. At the closing meeting in the church building Mr. Stafford was suitably thanked. Mrs. A. R. Pollock, as pianist, was given a copy of the scriptures in appreciation of her untiring service. The preacher, G. M. Mathieson, led the singing throughout the campaign. The church was delighted to have fellowship with Mrs. Stafford and Eric Brough, secretary of the Cheltenham church, during the last week of campaign.—G.M.M.

From Week to Week

THESE notes have not appeared for two weeks because of pressure on space. I have been compelled to hold several news-letters and articles for the same reason. If contributors are wondering what has happened to manuscripts, then this lack of space may account for the fact that they have not been used.

I wrote a leader for this special number, but found it could not be inserted without overcrowding the paper. At a later date it may be used, and then readers may link the thoughts it contains with the theme of this issue.

ONCE more we are indebted to a group of friends who have assisted to make it possible for us to present helpful messages to the readers.

It is possible to convey truth through pictures. The theme of the front-page picture brings us face to face with a great need. The Bible must be placed in the centre of the home, and be used as the basis of national life. C. L. Lang, of Ormond, Vic., co-operated in the task of presenting this message and he supplied the photograph. S. R. Baker assisted us, in various ways, to gather the needed material, and also wrote a helpful article. C. G. Taylor supplied a vivid outline of a great discovery made 100 years ago. R. T. Pittman loaned pictures so we could have blocks to illustrate the article. In addition, we have our regular helpers and writers. This special issue goes forth with the hope that it will encourage greater interest in the Bible.

IN the "British Weekly" of March 9, which I came to hand last week, there is an interesting article by G. Sheppard. He tells how a Mr. Hodgson found, in the early part of the

18th century, a translation of the Bible in Chinese. At that time he was in Canton, acting as an agent for the East India Company. It does not seem that anybody has discovered who translated that early Chinese Bible. Mr. Hodgson secured permission from the owner of the manuscript to have it copied. He employed an expert copyist to do the work that took many weeks to complete. Bringing it to England, he presented it to a friend, Sir Hans Sloane, who handed it to the officials of the British Museum. The manuscript was not heeded for more than half a century; then in 1802 public attention was directed to it. It was thought that it could be set in type and from it copies could be secured and be sent to China. The cost was so high that the work was not undertaken. At that time The London Missionary Society became interested in China, and secured Robert Morrison as the first missionary for China. Mr. Morrison studied this Chinese Bible in the British Museum, and with the aid of a Chinese, Yung Sam-tak, then in London, made a complete copy of the Bible. He took it with him to China. Morrison found that the translation was a faithful text, but in some details failed to meet his requirements. Then the missionary undertook the task of making a new translation. After seven years the New Testament was completed. It is evident that Morrison used the older translation to guide him in his work. The picture on the second page depicts the scene where Robert Morrison is working on his translation with the aid of this older work by an unknown scholar.

News of the Churches

Queensland

Albion.—On evening of March 6, termination of Youth Week, Boys' Club took the service, and one of their members who made the good confession the previous Sunday was immersed. Offering for youth work was £19. Chaplain Sawyer, of U.S. Forces, was speaker at gospel service on March 26. On Easter Sunday morning Eric Hart, of Boonah, was speaker and S. Vanham, of Rockhampton, spoke at night. Miss Helen Trudgian, church organist, had the degree of Bachelor of Arts conferred on her at University graduation ceremony. Average attendance at breaking of bread during April was 99.

Bundaberg.—Mr. Clark has returned home and has again taken services. After visiting conference he entered hospital for a minor operation, then visited relatives in Toowoomba. G. Linderberg passed away on May 8. A service before burial was conducted by Mr. Clark. Mrs. Anderson is back after spending a few months with her soldier husband in Mackay. Gladys Christensen was married recently. A visit was received from Mr. Shakespeare (B. & F. Bible Society). Mr. Smith has been in hospital, having undergone a serious operation. Sister Lorensen is experiencing ill-health. Mrs. Pohle is still sick. Mr. Asmus spent a few weeks in hospital, but is home again. Sunday school held picnic at New Bundaberg.

YOUTH RALLY

FOUR YOUNG LADIES CONFESS CHRIST

MA MA CREEK.—On Apr. 5 Endeavorers enjoyed travelling by motor truck to conference youth rally at Brisbane. At morning service on April 23, organising secretary Mr. Greenwood was speaker. That afternoon the preacher took Mr. Greenwood to Blanch View to visit isolated members. Nine visitors were present at a well-attended meeting on April 30. A conference report was presented by church secretary to a special meeting, and a report of Women's Conference was given by Mrs. H. Rosenberg. Bible school picnic on May 1 was very successful. On May 3 there were 36 at C.E. meeting in home of E. Cole. F. B. Stow was speaker at anniversary services on May 7. His messages were much appreciated. Mr. Stow also addressed Bible school at West Halden, when four young ladies gave themselves to the Lord.

South Australia

Forestville.—W. F. Nankivell spoke on morning of April 30. In evening a young people's tea was held, at close of which an address was given by S. E. Riches, representing Mission to Lepers. This was followed by a youth service. Short messages were given by three young men, and items were rendered by a choir of Bible school girls. Mr. Riches spoke at gospel meeting on May 7, and gave a lantern lecture in interests of Mission to Lepers on May 9.

Whyalla.—Fellowship has been enjoyed with visitors. In connection with Youth Week, the Endeavor held a camp-fire picnic, which ended with a testimony meeting. On Sunday at 8 a.m., a prayer meeting was held, 19 being present. Combined tea was held by Endeavor and Bible school, followed by gospel service conducted by Endeavor. Y.P. offering to date, £2/2/-. Mrs. V. C. McDougall (formerly Miss Joan Walladge, of Port Pirie) has been received into fellowship.

Murray Bridge.—The wedding of Miss Jeanette Mitchell and Mr. Jack Roberts took place in the chapel on April 29, N. G. Noble officiating. On May 7 Miss G. Blenkiron, of Norwood church, and Misses Audrey and Gwen Jones, of Exeter church, were welcomed by letter of transfer. A good annual offering for Young People's Department was made during the day. Mrs. E. Bridden, of N.S.W., and Miss Lorna Brake, of Adelaide, have been visitors to their home town and church. N. G. and Mrs. Noble are spending a fortnight at Victor Harbour.

Prospect.—Youth Week services were continued. C.E. societies conducted midweek service; good attendance. Members of 2nd degree conducted morning service on May 7. Fellowship was enjoyed with Ross and Phil. Thompson, on leave. Evening service was inspiring. Officers of K.S.P. were installed and A. E. Brown preached. Eugene Molcher was baptised. After service singing was enjoyed. Mr. Mansell has been sick. Mr. Crosby enjoyed fellowship after being away through sickness. Miss Ritchie was welcomed by letter of transfer from North Adelaide.

Flinders Park.—Special services were held in connection with Youth Week. On April 30, at gospel service, two Endeavorers, Phyllis Parker and Keith Webb, gave testimonies, and G. Houston gave the gospel message. On May 7, early morning prayer meeting was held by C.E. Societies, and in evening an Endeavorer, Glen Pearce, assisted H. Francis in gospel service, with Phyllis Parker soloist. The church is commencing a series of home fellowship meetings each alternate week. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Munchenburg and family in the death of her son Ian, who was serving in the merchant navy abroad. Services are well maintained.

New South Wales

Rockdale.—On May 3 Mr. Burns exhorted the church. P. Walker was home on leave. Young people held monthly fellowship tea. At night Mr. Burns preached and two Bible school girls made the good confession.

Bexley North.—J. Henderson spoke at both services on April 30. Mr. and Mrs. R. Greenhalgh and Mrs. Perry were received by transfer. A quartette rendered items at gospel service. On May 7 R. Greenhalgh addressed the church. At night a youth service was held, when members of Young People's Fellowship and Bible school scholars conducted. J. Henderson delivered the message to congregation of 95 people. £22 has been raised to date towards special £100 effort.

Belmore.—Morning speakers have been Messrs. Evans, Gibbs and Arnott, and evening speakers Messrs. Carter, Arnott and Hallop, who have ably filled the pulpit for Mr. Corlett during his absence in N.Z. All meetings have been well attended, and good work in all departments is maintained. On May 7 J. Knights was received into fellowship, having been baptised the previous Sunday, and at gospel service Miss Betty Smith, a member of the Bible class, took her stand for Christ at conclusion of an earnest gospel message from Mr. Hallop. Word has been received from Mr. Corlett, who is well and enjoying the stay with his family.

Gilgandra.—Recently Miss Margaret Burrell was married to Mr. George Appleby. A successful Sunday school anniversary has been held, Mr. Frank Ede, of "The Gospel Fishermen," being speaker at afternoon service. P. Retchford conducted morning and evening services. On April 28 a tea was given to the Sunday school children, and was followed by a concert and annual prize-giving. On Anzac Day Mr. Retchford gave an appreciated address at the public service. Fellowship is being enjoyed with Gnr. Doug. Quayle, A.I.F.,

and Sgt. W. Burrell, R.A.A.F. Word has come that Frank Morris, who is serving with the R.A.A.F. in England, has been promoted to Flight Lieutenant.

GROWING MEMBERSHIP

SIX YOUNG PEOPLE BAPTISED

BROKEN HILL (Wolfram-st.).—On Apr. 23 H. E. Paddick spoke on baptism and a large audience witnessed the immersion of six young people who recently confessed Christ. On April 30, at morning service, three of these were received into membership. The other three were received in at Railwaytown on same day. At gospel service, after H. E. Paddick's address, a young man, John Baker, came forward. The work of Miss M. Skewes with J.C.E. is much appreciated. Young people of church enjoyed a mystery hike on May 6. An interesting lantern lecture on work of B. and F. Bible Society was given by N. E. Bowen on May 1. A good offering was received.

Georgetown.—Recently Robert Watt was baptised and welcomed into fellowship. Attendances at all services have maintained a high level. On April 30 L. E. Jones, of Hamilton, spoke in morning. At night R. V. Amos preached, and was assisted by Chaplain G. O. Tease. During the day Mr. Tease spoke at Bible school, and gave an inspiring message in an informal after-church gathering. Fourth anniversary of church was held on May 6 and 7. E. T. Heather, of Baptist Tabernacle, spoke at thanksgiving and intercessory service on Saturday night. At 11 a.m. on Sunday, E. G. Wykes, of New Lambton Baptist church, was speaker. At 7 p.m. Mr. Amos addressed a crowded gathering. Splendid attendances were a feature of the day, during which 101 broke bread.

Western Australia

Perth.—On morning of May 7 J. K. Robinson delivered an instructive message. With regret good-bye was said to Frank Clarke, who has been transferred by R.A.F. to another part. Young people's societies gave him a New Testament and daily readings. The 7.30 p.m. service took the form of a "parents' night." A largely increased attendance included parents who had accepted the invitation of Bible school staff to be present, Mrs. Cosh rendered a solo and Mr. Robinson preached. Afterwards a social hour and supper were enjoyed.

Victoria

Emerald.—On May 7, both services were taken by F. B. Alcorn. In morning Mrs. A. A. Murray and her son G. E. Murray were welcomed to membership by transfer from Bambra-rd., Caulfield.

Hampton.—At a teachers' social on May 9 farewell was said to Mrs. Stock and her sister Heather Greedy, who have returned to S.A. Mother's Day was observed on May 14. At night the preacher was J. McDiarmid, of Lygon-st. church. A young lady confessed Christ.

Warragul.—E. J. Waters has been made an elder. Special services were held on Youth Sunday. A Young Worshipers' League was commenced on that day. Mr. Byard gave the address at morning service, which was well attended. Young people took part at evening service. Mr. Baker gave a fine address. A member of Bible school made the good confession.

Bendigo.—Christian Endeavorers are doing an excellent work. On April 21 a 21st birthday party was tendered Miss Beryl Moon. On April 24, 19 had tea to welcome Mr. and Mrs. V. C. Stafford. On May 6, 20 hiked to Diamond

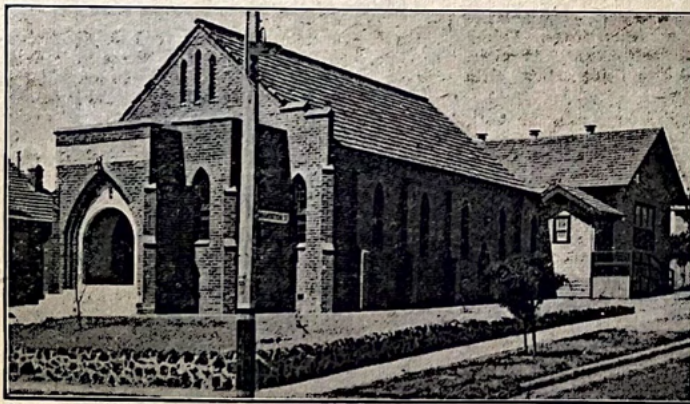
Hill with Mr. and Mrs. Stafford, after which 23 had tea together. Saturday evening prayer meetings are proving a great success, also the monthly visit to Bendigo Blind Home.

Ballarat (Peel-st.).—Meetings during past weeks have been well attended, and interest in all parts of work is encouraging. One young lady made the good confession on April 23. Lorraine Randall has had fellowship with church. Messrs. Horby and C. Schulz, home on leave, have had fellowship with church, also Mrs. Geo. Graham. Ministry of A. Graham is appreciated.

Boronia.—Sympathy of church is extended to V. Burden, the church secretary, in the loss of his mother on May 8. Youth and Mother's Day services were held on May 7 and 14 with attendances above average. Special singing by children from S.S. and Young Worshippers' League delighted those present. Don Maguire and John Chandler, home on leave, met with the church. Radiators have been installed in building.

Newmarket.—On April 23 Mr. Jackel spoke at morning service, Mr. Graham at night. On April 30 Mr. Whiting addressed morning service and Mr. Graham preached at night. A party of young people attended tea and devotional rally at Ascot Vale on May 6. On May 14 Mr. Moncur, of Ascot Vale, presided, and Mr. Graham addressed both services. Mother's Day was observed. A youth tea was held on May 14, when young people took part in service. Soloist was Miss J. Sullivan.

Essendon.—Mr. Thompson, of North Essendon, presided on morning of May 14. W. E. Jackel gave an interesting talk. Bible school anniversary services were continued. A. G. Bennett, of Sunshine, spoke in afternoon, and at night L. E. Brooker gave an interesting illustrated discourse. The chapel was filled to overflowing and the large choir under leadership of A. W. Stevens delighted with their singing. A telegram was received from Miss Dorothy Goldsworthy, A.A.W.M.S., a former teacher, wishing the anniversary every success.



The Chapel at Hartwell.

East Kew.—Morning address on May 7 was given by Mr. McIlhagger. Mr. and Mrs. Rusenberg and Pte. Betty Hayman were present. In evening East Kew I.O.R. conducted annual church parade with A. A. Hughes and A. W. C. Candy preaching. George Kenny made the good confession. Both services were well attended. On morning of May 14 two lads, recently baptised, were received into fellowship. Mr. Dobyn, greatly improved in health, is back at services, but many others are sick. Mother's Day service was conducted at night, bouquets being given to the two eldest mothers present. Mr. Candy has commenced his fourth year of ministry with the church.

Ballarat (York-st.).—On May 7 anniversary sessions of Bible school were highly successful, there being particularly large congregations. Outstanding features were addresses of L. Brooker, and singing of children in con-

certed and individual items. H. Feary was conductor, and B. Feary (superintendent) presided. Prizes were distributed afternoon and evening, Miss Hazel Hocking gaining William Alexander memorial medal for having achieved ten years unbroken attendance as a scholar and latterly as a teacher.

Reservoir.—At morning service on May 7, Ron Vorbach and Mrs. S. Veal, transferred from Kyneton and Thornbury respectively, were received into fellowship. Mr. Grainger spoke both morning and evening. A new series of studies on "Types and Antitypes" has commenced at midweek meetings under leadership of J. Plummer. A successful social gathering was held in church building on May 11. On 13th a working bee, under direction of E. Dudley, commenced painting of building. Mother's Day was celebrated on May 14. In morning W. T. Atkin brought the message, and in evening ladies of church took charge. Mrs. W. McInnes presided. Mrs. Trathen rendered a solo, and Mrs. E. Dudley gave the children's talk. The two oldest mothers were presented with bouquets (Mesdames Lee and Dudley). An inspiring message was given by Mr. Grainger.

Doncaster.—A number of young people enjoyed the trip to Salvation Army Boys' Home at Bayswater, when the inmates were entertained by members of youth group under guidance of Youth Department. On evening of May 7 a number of young people had tea at the chapel, later taking part in evening meeting. The 63rd anniversary of Bible school was celebrated on May 14. Mr. Candy, of East Kew, gave a talk to scholars. Prizes were distributed. Musical items were rendered by scholars. There was a good attendance of parents and friends. At evening meeting Mr. Banks gave an illustrated talk. Young people assisted with items. Mr. Leslie Petty was presented with a parcel of books in recognition of his 20 years' service as superintendent of Bible school. Mrs. A. T. Tully, superintendent of kindergarten class, having held that position for the same period, was presented with a mirror. Offering for youth work was £12.

Hartwell.—A good meeting heard C. J. Robinson on May 7 in morning; 141 broke bread for day. Church welcomed back C. Becker from battle station. Young people took part in evening service, three young ladies singing and two young men speaking. On May 14 C. J. Robinson spoke at both meetings, especially remembering mother. R. Watt (R.A.A.F.) was welcomed back after three years overseas. Other men from local stations were present; 177 were at Bible school.

Footscray.—Combined J.C.E. and Y.W.L. anniversary services were conducted on May 14. The children's choir, trained by W. Easton, sang splendidly. Special items were given by I. Carter, J. and L. Buckley, J. and M. Lambert and D. Kelly. N. Gavros was afternoon speaker. D. C. Ritchie, back from holidays, addressed morning and evening services. Hearing aids have been obtained for a church member.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—C. G. Taylor was speaker at all services on May 14. There was a very fine attendance of 146 in morning. In honor of mother each member was presented with a white flower, and at night service Mrs. Pettifler, the oldest mother present, received a bouquet of flowers from J.C.E. Mr. and Mrs. Turnbull, of Rochester, and Mrs. H. L. Lee, of Gardiner, were received into membership. A. O. Baker, of Prospect, S.A., and H. W. Cust, of Chatsfield, N.S.W., were among visitors.

Horsham.—On April 30, Chaplain Jones spoke at morning service. C. W. Jackel preached at night. A married woman confessed Christ, who was baptised on May 7. At gospel meeting on that day, a young lady confessed Christ. On May 14 F. A. Crawshaw addressed the church in morning. After night service a baptismal service was held. E. Hallam, sen., passed away last week. C. W. Jackel conducted service at church and graveside. Sympathy is expressed to W. Mackley on the passing of his father.

PREPARATIONS FOR MISSION

CHURCH AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCES HIGH

OKLEIGH.—A congregation of 150 at worship service on April 30 included A. Holden and M. McGregor, home on leave. Harvest thanksgiving services were held on May 7, a large quantity of gifts being sent to Christian Guest Home and Burwood Boys' Home. Attendance at Bible school was 159. Young people, with visitors from neighboring churches, held a hike and social on May 13 to meet members of mission team. At every-member-present service to commence mission on May 14, 165 were present. J. K. Bond was speaker. Kindergarten held Mother's Day service in afternoon.

Mildura.—Attendances have improved at both morning and evening services. Mrs. Drewett is confined to her home through illness. W. Beasy is in hospital and doing nicely after operation. Mr. Henderson, although not able to meet with the church, sends greetings. Florrie Benham is home from hospital and is hoping to be back to take charge of kindergarten soon. Mother's Day services were well attended. J. Lewis spoke at both services. In evening several ladies took part. Bill O'Neill, Wall Swinger and Frank Henderson have all been home on leave. John Robinson is at Somers. Ray Box is back again.

Malvern-Caulfield.—At morning service on May 14 Mr. Gadge, sen., addressed the church. The secretary, Mr. Holloway, advised the church that F. E. Buckingham had completed five years' successful ministry with the church. Members are glad to know that he will continue. Much appreciation of his service was shown by officers and members. At evening service Mr. Buckingham gave an inspiring address, special reference being made of mother. Two made the good confession. Several visitors were present. A special anthem was rendered by choir. A very spiritual and profitable day was spent. The church has decided on a forward movement.

South Yarra.—Great meetings were experienced on May 7. One who was baptised the previous Sunday was received into fellowship. Two more confessed Christ at evening service, at which five were baptised. At 5 p.m. a Men's Fellowship tea was held, at which Mr. Clark told of his six years' experiences in the Merchant Navy. Youth Day was observed with parade of young people's clubs. Young people took part in services. Youth offering amounted to £8/6/4. On May 14, five previously baptised, were received into fellowship, together with Mr. and Mrs. Roffey, from North Essendon. The building was tastefully decorated for Mother's Day, and at evening service mothers took part.

Black Rock.—Y.P.S.C.E. camp at Menzies Creek at Easter, under leadership of Mr. Hardham, was a time of helpful fellowship and spiritual refreshment. Special youth meetings were held on April 24 (A. W. C. Candy and "youth party"); April 26 (F. H. Elliott and T. Turriff—song and picturegraph); April 29, tea and panel discussion under W. R. Hibbert's

leadership. Additions for April—four by letter of transfer, two by baptism. The marriage of Miss D. Delzoppo to R. Hardham was celebrated in chapel on April 22, Russell Baker officiating. On April 30 Bible school anniversary had record attendance for afternoon service, Mr. Burn addressing the children. Ron Muller gave an illustrated address at evening service. The children's singing reflected great credit on Mr. Higgs for his training. On May 2 C. L. Lang delighted all with his lantern lecture. Anniversary was continued at three services on May 7. At half-yearly business meeting on May 10, reports from all auxiliaries showed good progress. Regret was expressed that owing to ill-health J. Baker had found it necessary to relinquish the secretaryship and have a period of rest. W. R. Elliott was appointed to the position.

Brighton.—There was one confession on May 7 and another on May 14, C. B. Nance-Kivell preaching. Our brother will conclude a helpful ministry this month. A concert organised by the Mission Band to raise funds for Services hostel raised £13.

Help the Young People

The Well-known "Wantoknow" Series.

"The Questions of Jack Wantoknow," by Montague Goodman. Answers such enquiries as: Why do accidents happen? What about Sunday games? How do you know the Bible is true? 2/-.

"Come to Tea with Me," Montague Goodman. Discussions for boys on important things, 2/-.

"Jill Wants to Know," by Dorothy Dennison, 2/-.

"Doubting Thomassina," Dorothy Dennison, 2/-.

"The Strange History of Worldover School," Montague Goodman. The spiritual history of humanity and God's plan of redemption under the guise of happenings in a Public School. 2/- (Postage extra.)

KESWICK BOOK DEPOT,

For Everything Evangelical,
315 Collins-st., Melbourne.

DEATH

HARWOOD.—At Hobart on Easter Monday, Jack Albert, beloved second son of J. and A. Harwood, of Nubeena, Tas., aged 33 years, after a long illness bravely and cheerfully borne.

HARWOOD.—On April 10, at Hobart, Jack Albert, beloved son of Amy and John Harwood, of Nubeena, Tas. Aged 33 years.

IN MEMORIAM

FISHER.—Sacred to the memory and loving thoughts of Florence Eccles Fisher, May 22, 1938. "Not just to-day, but every day."
—Inserted by her loving mother, R. H. Thorp.

MORPHETT.—In loving memory of my dear son and brother, Arthur George, who died result of an accident May 17, 1934.

Time passes, but precious memories linger.
—Inserted by his loving mother, sister Ivy, brother Walter, R.A.A.F.

MORPHETT.—In loving memory of my dear nephew, Arthur George, who died May 17, 1934, result of an accident.

"Just a token true and tender,
Just to show I still remember."
—Inserted by his loving aunt May.

WILLIAMS.—In loving memory of our dear son, Richard, who was called from earth to heavenly life on May 16, 1934. Blessed be God. His God and ours.

—R. M. and E. A. Williams.

BEREAVEMENT THANKS

Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Waters and family desire to express their appreciation and thanks to relatives and friends for letters, telegrams, cards and personal expressions of sympathy in their recent bereavement.
—"Warrindale," Warragul.

WANTED

Business lady wants board and residence with Christian family or private guest house.—R.H., care Austral Co.

Camera, 35 mm. still. Film strips (35 mm.) or lantern slides (3½ x 3½), Biblical or educational subjects. Suitable for young people's work.—"Preacher," c/o the Austral.

MUSICIANS WANTED

by MALVERN CONCERT ORCHESTRA,
4 First Violins, 4 Second Violins, 2 'Cellos,
1 Clarinet, 1 Trombone,
to assist in concerts in various churches.

—C. Gadge, 27 Northcote-rd., Armadale.
Phone, U3029.

FIFTEEN GIRLS WANTED

Malvern Girls' Choir want 15 additional members. There is a very busy time ahead with concerts at Dandenong, Blackburn, Carnegie, Malvern, Kew and other places. A knowledge of music or a solo voice is not necessary, but a willingness to attend Friday night rehearsals at 8 p.m. at Malvern church is essential.—Claude Gadge, 27 Northcote-rd., Armadale. Phone, U3029.

LYGON STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST.

NEW CENTURY BIBLE CLASS.

Every Sunday at 3 p.m.

May 21—The Church in Japan.

"SALUTE TO SACRIFICE."

China's epic stand has stirred the Allied world. We acknowledge our debt and voice our hopes in a series leading up to

Overseas Missions Day, July 2.

May 28—Behind the Great Wall.

NEWMARKET CHURCH OF CHRIST BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY

will be held in the church on
MAY 28.

Speakers:

3 p.m., Mr. A. W. Candy. 7 p.m., Mr. A. E. White.
Hospitality provided.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, EAST KEW.

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TWENTY-FIRST CHURCH ANNIVERSARY.

Special Services.

SATURDAY, MAY 20.

7.45 p.m., Preparatory Intercession Meeting.

SUNDAY, MAY 21.

11 a.m., Every-member-present and Roll Call.
Preacher, J. E. Thomas.

3 p.m., Pleasant Sunday Afternoon.

Speaker: V. Margetts.

7 p.m., Gospel Service.

Preacher, S. R. Baker.

Soloist, Miss Amelia Scarce.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24.

6.15 p.m., Fellowship Tea.

Past members and friends invited. Hospitality arranged for Sunday services if you will please advise the secretary.

35TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICES

MORELAND CHURCH OF CHRIST

HOMECOMING DAY,

MAY 21.

10 a.m., Endeavor Reunion.

11 a.m., Mr. H. B. Robbins.

2.45 p.m., Back to the Bible School.

7 p.m., Mr. W. Gale.

Come for the day. Hospitality arranged for all.

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MAY 21 to 28,

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Sunday, May 21, 11 and 7, Church Anniversary.

Thursday, May 25, 7.30, Open-air service at

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Visitors cordially welcome.

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ANNUAL MEETING,

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1944, 8 p.m.,

will be held at Church of Christ, Rathdown-st., Carlton.

All Fellowship Members Invited to Attend.

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CHURCH ANNIVERSARY, JUNE 4.

11 a.m., Chaplain C. Young.

7 p.m., W. Jones.

Birthday offering. Reunion of past and present members.

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

SOUTH MELBOURNE CHURCH OF CHRIST.

ANNIVERSARY HOME-COMING DAY,

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 1944.

Special Services—

11 a.m., Worship. 3 p.m., Pleasant Sunday

Afternoon. 7 p.m., Gospel Service.

Special speakers and singing.

All past members and friends invited to return home for day.

For hospitality at chapel notify D. F. Morgan, 19 Mountain-st., South Melbourne, SC5.

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Changing India

DR. R. G. COCHRANE, medical superintendent of the Lady Willingdon Leprosarium, South India, endeavors to stimulate the thinking of those in India and those at home. He says: "The war against leprosy in India's villages must be waged relentlessly." The institution to which he is attached is financed by the Government, but its workers belong to the Church of Scotland Mission. Thus these workers make a dual contribution, one as missionaries, the other to the Government of India. Dr. Cochrane believes that the problem can be tackled by ridding a group of villages of leprosy. He says: "Leprosy is a village disease, and one must study it in the area in which it arises. For if one studies it only in the artificial atmosphere of a large institution, one is not studying the disease in its normal habitat, and hence conclusions will be vitiated. Another of our objects is to create a centre of Christian service through leprosy work, and thus prepare the ground for more definite Christian witness." Villagers have been encouraged to improve their villages. New wells have been dug or repaired, and most of all villagers have been encouraged to do this work of reclamation.

Christian Witness

"What of the Christian witness? This is gradually being built up through many vicissitudes. Scriptures are distributed to interested enquirers, and we are praying that, as a result of this contact with the villagers,

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.

they will become more definitely interested, and so the opportunity for individual Christian witness will greatly increase." Dr. Cochrane sees a real danger that much of the valuable work done will be lost or at least seriously handicapped unless a very great effort is put forward to inculcate a sound knowledge of leprosy in the minds of the general public. He foresees a National Government within a very few years after the war, and perhaps a slackening of interest resulting from lack of knowledge. To foster this interest he suggests "creating model pieces of work which would constitute a challenge. Stimulating Government and other official bodies to follow the example that is set." Continuing, he says: "We see signs of the trend of Indian national opinion, and it is safe to prophesy that much missionary work will be hampered, if not made completely impossible, when this is vitally dependent on Government grants, for these may well be curtailed, or withheld and, therefore, work crippled or stopped. It would be well, then, to consider the essential objects of the missionary enterprise."

Every Village Reached for Christ

"The first and primary object is evangelism, so that the gospel of God's redeeming grace will reach every village within the shortest period of time. From information gathered, admittedly at random, it is doubtful whether 20 per cent. of the villages in the district in which our leprosy unit is working have had any Christian witness. Over thirty villages have so far been surveyed; and, as yet, the survey party has been in no village in which there is a single Christian, or any previous Christian work, although the area referred to is within six miles of a Christian centre,

in which a Christian mission has been in existence for over fifty years." "Personally, I am of opinion that 30 per cent. would be found to be the outside percentage of villages in this part of India in which there is any effective Christian work. This would mean that possibly 70 per cent. of all the villages, in what is considered a well-occupied area, are still unreached. It is surely not the number of Christians in an area that is of importance, but the percentage of villages in which there is a nucleus of Christian workers, voluntary or paid, active or potential. If this were investigated, I have no doubt that staggering evidence would be revealed of the task yet to be accomplished. The first and most important object is to reach the villages of India with



Leper Patiently Waiting.

the gospel of Christ. This is mainly a task for the indigenous church."

Training the Church for Service

"Another object of missionary endeavor is to train the church in Christian service, and by this is meant the whole contribution the Christian community can make to the body politic. It might well be asked to what extent, as a composite body, does the Christian community contribute towards the idea of service? I would, therefore, emphasize this latter object of the Christian missionary enterprise, and the setting up of model pieces of work, which will challenge the Indian community into definite action in respect to ser-

vice. These model pieces of work would not be many, but few, and would include the whole resources of the Christian church, irrespective of what particular section of the missionary enterprise it represents."

Meeting India's Need

"In the past, hospitals have arisen because a certain missionary society saw the great need for medical relief, and commenced medical work. We can never meet the medical need of India, or even a district. All that can be done is to show the method by which the medical need could be met. The day will soon be here when the National Government will feel that it is quite capable of running hospitals and dispensaries, and therefore, the medical needs of the country will more and more become the primary concern of the State." —"World Dominion."

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Tasmanian News-letter

THE writer has been down to the Airways office quite frequently lately. No, I have not been seeking a passage back to the mainland (this is the happy isle of the blest!), but meeting several good folk who have availed themselves of the encouraging priority regulations which exist between Melbourne and Tasmania. All my visits to the Airways office have been happy, except one—the occasion when the conference president (E. A. Stevens) and the writer said farewell to

Mr. and Mrs. Morgan

and their two sturdy sons. Mr. Morgan had completed five years service in this State. For four and a half years he was the preacher at Invermay, a suburb of Launceston. For the past six months of his presidential year, which concluded last conference, he was travelling evangelist for home missions. Mr. Morgan ably filled a number of brotherhood positions. He has been heard more frequently over both commercial and national stations in Tasmania than any minister of any church in the State during the same period. A host of Christian friends wish him and his good wife a happy and fruitful ministry with the church at Box Hill, Victoria.

D. R. Hill

arrived in Launceston by air on the eve of conference. The timing of his arrival enabled him to get a fair knowledge of our State work and to meet delegates from distant churches. It also gave them the opportunity of meeting the one who has been called to minister to those congregations which have no regular preacher. To this task Mr. Hill brings a wide and varied experience, having first associated himself with churches of Christ in Winnipeg in 1911, and served one of its suburban churches for four years. After the great war both Mr. and Mrs. Hill went to Overdale College, Birmingham. At the conclusion of their studies there Mr. Hill was travelling evangelist with our British churches for six years. He then came to W.A., where he labored with the church at Victoria Park for two years. The following three years were spent with the churches in South Africa. After a short visit to England he returned to W.A., whence he came to Tasmania.

Home Mission Policy

Conference was well attended, and notable for the keen interest and enthusiasm shown in the future of our work in this State. Frank discussions, concrete plans and liberal offerings indicated the brotherhood's desire to be aggressive in the advocacy of the gospel of Christ. In its wisdom conference agreed that in future the travelling evangelist should stay in one place long enough to consolidate the work there and then to move on, without attempting to visit all the churches in one year. It was pointed out that this scheme was not an end in itself, but only preparatory to locating resident preachers who, it is hoped, in turn would lead the congregation to the stage where it would be self-supporting. This is writing just now, of course, of the financial side of what we pray shall be of great spiritual blessing to our churches and a strengthening of their witness to the Saviour of men.

Conference Visitors

Besides delegates and friends from Hobart and our country churches, we were pleased to have Mr. and Mrs. Hagger and Mr. F. T. Saunders from Melbourne. Mr. Hagger's addresses contributed to the inspiration of our gatherings. The Tasmanian brotherhood's appreciation was indicated by so many preferring to bid them "au revoir" rather than good-bye. F. T. Saunders in a short time addressed a great many meetings throughout the State. Just prior to his return to Melbourne, members of the Home Mission Committee met Mr. Saunders and availed themselves of hearing of the welfare of the country churches. Our country brethren deserve all the encouragement that we can give.

Youth Work

There are great opportunities of youth evangelism in this State. Many of the young people already in church membership are supporting the work and worship of their own church in every possible way. A great many of our Bible school teachers in rural areas labor under considerable handicaps of lack of equipment and adequate accommodation. "Take care of the Sunday school and the church will take care of itself," may be an extreme adaptation of a well-known financial maxim; however, it does not overstress the importance of our Bible schools in relation to the future of our churches. With an almost depleted treasury, the Tasmanian Youth Department is expecting that this brotherhood will give in a liberal manner to enable them to win an increasing number of young people to Christ and to retain them in his church.—Stanton H. Wilson.

Obituary

J. Harwood

J. HARWOOD was only a young man when called to higher service, having attained his thirty-third year. Early in life he gave his heart to the Master at Nubeena church, Tasmania. A little later he transferred to Collins-st., Hobart, where for many years he was an active worker, particularly in the Christian Endeavor. For health reasons he spent some time in Sydney, then towards the end of his life returned to his parents' home at Nubeena. Here, in picturesque surroundings, with the mountains in the background and the sea before, his body was laid to rest. He was a young man of strong faith, who would have done more if he could. A large gathering of friends at the graveside did honor to his memory. The writer conducted the burial services.—C.P.H.

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- (2) To make weak churches self-supporting.
- (3) To start at least one new church each year.
- (4) To save souls anywhere, in every way, and at all times.

E. C. HINRICHSEN,
Director of Evangelism,

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Three Bundles of Sticks

(Acts 28: 3)

"Is this supposition reasonable?" began Mr. Stanbury. "That a cheerful boy or girl carrying firewood is a common sight where you live." Some grins accompanied a majority "Yes!" Then three midget bundles of sticks were used to prompt discussion.

One bundle set Keith to reading Numbers 15: 32, 33. The crime of the defiant man was more than a matter of gathering sticks, but rather of despising law, so essential to the ordering of humanity. Living in the era of grace, we should remember that sin is not only transgression of God's law; it is a blow at God's loving heart. Joan got 1 Kings 17: 10-12, from bundle number two. Jesus commended this faithful mother, centuries after. Midst danger and poverty this faithful soul did not swerve from duty or from honoring the name of God. So God greatly used and blessed her. The third bundle yielded Charlie Acts 28: 3. It was readily agreed that the principle and spirit of the helpful apostle is essential to the development and progress of democracy. All who enjoy life's warm fires should be eager to gather their bundle of sticks.

"When next you are busy with the firewood," Mr. Stanbury suggested, "you may entertain some memory flashes, of the defiant man, the faithful mother and Christ's helpful apostle."
—G. J. Andrews.

THOUGHT

"When we read our Bible we listen
to God; and when we pray we talk
to him."

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