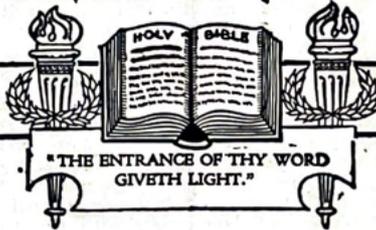


7 pages

# The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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## On Reading the Bible



A BEGGAR sat by the wayside, and sought alms from those who journeyed along the road. At death it was thought he might have left riches hidden in the ground beneath where he used to sit. Searchers found a treasure, but not one buried by that beggar; for it had been lying there for centuries. There, within an arm's length of where he used to beg, vast wealth had been stored, but alas! unknown to the poor man.

A young sheikh, of a village situated in the hills of the Alaouite district of Syria, was opposed to the work of Christian missionaries. However, he sent his young son to the mission school to gain a good education. The boy became so enthusiastic about what he had learned of God and the Saviour that the father ventured to read the Christian scriptures; until that time he was interested in the Koran alone. Later, to the missionary on a visit to the son who was suffering from malaria, the sheikh said, "I never knew that there was such precious teaching in the Bible. Now I read nothing else." Thus, like the wealth lying unknown and yet within the beggar's reach, the precious truths of the Bible may be left undiscovered because men are not troubling to search for them.

THE literary style in which God has adorned his message for humanity has not been excelled by the efforts of the great masters of the literary ages. The works of Æschylus, Plato, Milton and Shakespeare are matched by the grand poetry and prose within the holy scriptures.

To read "The Seven Against Thebes" by Æschylus, or "The Republic" by Plato, or "Paradise Lost" by Milton, or "Hamlet" by Shakespeare, requires an application of the mind. If that is so, we should not expect to appreciate the full beauty of sacred literature without diligent study. John Milton wrote the dramatic story of man's fall and redemption in superb poetry. No doubt he hoped to unfold to simpler minds the grand story of God's plan to save man. Yet, to those who have opened the pages containing that famous poem, it is evident that a mental effort is demanded if its message is to be understood.

John Ruskin, in his book, "Sesame and Lilies," has expressed that labor is required to unfold the riches in good literature. In the following passage he conveys that truth, saying, "When you come to a good book, you must ask yourself, 'Am I inclined to work as an Australian miner would? Are my pickaxes and shovels in good order, and am I in good trim myself, my sleeves well up to the elbow, and my breath good, and my temper?'" "The metal you are in search of being the author's mind or meaning, his words are as the rock which you have to crush and smelt in order to get at it. And your

pickaxes are your own care, wit, and learning; your smelting furnace is your own thoughtful soul. Do not hope to get at any good author's meaning without those tools and that fire: often you will need sharpest, finest chiselling, and patientest fusing, before you can gather one grain of metal."

If such an effort is required to perceive the meaning of a human author's book, ought we expect to understand the full range of God's revelation with less!

TO-DAY the sensitiveness of our mental taste for good literature has been affected by the emotional passion of the modern novel and by the gaudy appeal of modern journalism. While reading a novel we are carried along the turbulent stream of the emotions: passion, rather than literary art, makes its appeal to the reader of the novel. The basis of much that is in modern journalism is linked up with sensationalism, rather than with a balanced view of life. News in the papers is the unusual, rather than the normal facts upon which life, on the average, is built. Emotionalism and sensationalism, dressed up by a certain type of modern journalism, have perverted our outlook upon life. Such writings ruin the taste of many for the good literature in the Bible.

If we are to read with appreciation the oratorical flights of Isaiah, the Christian philosophy of Paul, and the truths of the Revelation to John, we must rid ourselves of the bias against good literature built up in us by a false journalism. If we apply our minds diligently to the task of reading the scripture, we shall win rewards from God's gold-mine that will enrich, with many treasures, our speech, mind and spirit.

Unknown, precious truths for life are lying in the Bibles that are at hand in almost every home in the land. Here is a book about which many read a great deal; but few learn to read with genuine appreciation; because, in this modern world, we have failed to cultivate the art of reading the best literature of the ages.

To-day we are begging for the riches that will make a new order possible. Although those riches are within our grasp, we are failing to find them, because we are not searching the Bible diligently enough. Only the people who know the truths of the Bible can learn the art of living in a new order full of righteousness.

IT is not enough to open the Bible and to read a passage here and there. There is no great merit in reading in that manner. The Jews "searched the scriptures," but failed to learn the truths they contained concerning Christ. It seems they read with closed, rather than open, minds. They

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# The Church God Meant

A. W. Ludbrook, M.A., Dip.Ed., lecturer of the  
N.S.W. Bible College, writes, in this summary of the conference sermon preached in Sydney, of the chief characteristics of the church.

IN his life and ministry, and in his death, burial, and resurrection, Jesus Christ fulfilled one of the great purposes which had been born in the mind and heart of God. When sin first entered into the experience of humanity, the Lord God planned a way of redemption from its curse. Jesus the Saviour was the One in whom, and through whom, this purpose was realised. Not only was the redemptive ministry of Christ planned in the purpose of God, but so also was the birth and ministry of the church. The church was not an afterthought. That which God plans and wills is never an afterthought. The establishment of the church was part of the unfolding of the purposes of God in his provision for the needs of mankind. We are getting into deep water when we try to fathom the purposes of God. Our enquiry is limited to that which has been revealed by the Son of God in his teachings and by the Spirit of God in the scriptures. "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit, for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God" (1 Cor. 2: 9, 10).

## 1. What Were Some of the Characteristics of the Church God Planned?

### (a) Loyalty

Loyalty can be a tremendous driving force in human lives. Statesmen and dictators appeal to it, and seek to strengthen it, and to harness it to national ends. It can also be a tremendous driving force in the service of Christ. A Christian indeed has been described as one whose first and chief loyalty is to Jesus Christ. Ours is a loyalty to the person of Christ, the loyalty of love, of devotion, of gratitude. It is a loyalty also to the authority of Christ. In the presence of Moses the great lawgiver, and of Elijah the great prophet, God said to some apostles concerning his Son, "Hear ye him." So in giving the commission to his disciples Jesus said, "All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth. Go ye therefore and teach all nations." The Lord's will was to be the church's law.

### (b) Vitality

The church was to be a community of Spirit-filled men and women. The birth of the church was to be signalled by the beginning of new ministries of the Spirit of God. The

apostles' ministry of witness and of organisation was to be exercised in the wisdom and power of the Holy Spirit, for they were instructed, "Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high." The ministry of the same Spirit was to be the birthright of every Christian. The Christian life was to be one of great spiritual vitality, because of the resources made available by the Father in his Son and through his Spirit.

### (c) Unity

Before a child is born into a Christian home, much prayer is offered that the overruling providence of God may overshadow his birth and growth, and that grace, wisdom and guidance may be given to his parents for their parental ministry. Before the church was born Jesus our Lord spoke with the Father in prayer concerning her life. The record of that prayer is found in John 17. We see in this chapter that Jesus prayed very fervently for the unity of all who would afterwards become his followers.

These are three of the things meant by God to be characteristics of the church he planned: loyalty to Christ, vitality through Christ, unity in Christ. These three things are part of the will of God for the church. Doing the will of God puts us into gear with the power of God.

## 2. When the Church Was Born and Began to Grow, Did She Manifest These Characteristics?

A thoughtful perusal of the book of Acts of Apostles and of the New Testament epistles shows that the apostles and the evangelists of the early church were indeed loyal to the person of Christ. We read statements such as this one: "And he preached unto him Jesus." Their loyalty to the authority of Christ was exemplified in their faithfulness to the terms of the commission. The members of the church had a remarkable spiritual vitality. It was evident that they had access to resources of grace which made them victorious in times of testing. Indeed, the storms of persecution just fanned the flame of their

devotion. Too often to-day Christians and conferences are simply problem conscious. The New Testament Christians were also power conscious. There was also unity in the church's life. Five times in the first five chapters of the book of Acts of Apostles we read the expression, "with one accord." The apostles were jealous for the unity of the church. When a possible cause of division reared its head, a conference was held to ascertain the mind of the Spirit (Acts 15). So far from causing a division, the incident demonstrated the will to unity of the early church.

## 3. Does the Church Manifest These Characteristics To-day?

Do her members make Christ supreme in their love and loyalty? Are they all always loyal to his authoritative word? What of the spiritual vitality of the church and of her members? The resources available to Christians in New Testament times are available to us now, yet too often our lives are spiritually poverty-stricken and the church drives heavily like Pharaoh's chariots when the Lord took off their wheels at the Red Sea. Has the church to-day that unity for which Christ prayed? No, indeed, for the Deillah of division has shorn the church of much of her strength, has impoverished her fellowship and weakened her witness. The worst enemies of the church are not those of opposition and indifference from without but inconsistency, insincerity and disunity within. We are too short-sighted. We need vision, a vision of the possibilities within reach of a church united in Christ, of the possibilities in spiritual power, in impact on the community, and in enrichment of fellowship. "Where there is no vision the people perish."

We have grown up in an environment which has denominational divisions as one of the features of its life. Too many are contented with this state of affairs. The church has not always been thus; God never meant she should be thus, and she need not always remain thus. But some may say of the unity of Christians, "Is it possible?" or even, "Is it

(Continued on page 257.)



## Centenary of Service to Youth

The 100th anniversary of the foundation of the Y.M.C.A. in London.

ONE hundred years of successful service to youths and young men in many parts of the world will be celebrated on June 6, centenary of the founding of the first Y.M.C.A. in London. The Y.M.C.A. is affiliated with the Australian Comforts Fund, and its work is divided into two parts—welfare work for the men in uniform, and the youth department, which includes help for many boys of Servicemen.

The programme of the centenary week (June 4-10) will include special services in churches. Urgent needs of the fighting forces, and of prisoners of war in occupied Europe and Asia, have opened a great field of service for the Y.M.C.A. Under an agreement with the International Red Cross, Y.M.C.A. World Committee, the directing body at Geneva, ministers to the spiritual and recreational needs of prisoners of war. Hundreds of Y.M.C.A. representatives are on duty on the battle fronts, and several have been decorated for bravery under fire. Y.M.C.A. tea cars are an established feature of wartime Britain, travelling through bombed areas with hot drinks for A.R.P. workers, ack-ack gunners, and other civil defence workers.

Founded by George (afterwards Sir George) Williams, a drygoods employee in the City of London, the Y.M.C.A. spread rapidly throughout the world, and when the present war began, was active in 56 countries. Many thousands of young men have had cause to thank George Williams for having made it possible for them to enjoy moral and physical welfare, and to-day the Y.M.C.A. is the oldest welfare organisation devoted specifically to the service of youth. Under the stimulus of the first world war its work expanded enormously.

# The Victorious Life



Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnal, No. 576, "Fight the Good Fight."

Prayer.—

"Lord, be with our spirit, and dwell in our hearts by faith. Oh! make us such as we should be towards thee, and such as thou mayest take pleasure in us. Be with us everywhere, and at all times, in all events and circumstances of our life, to sanctify and sweeten to us whatever befalls us; and never leave nor forsake us in our present pilgrimage here, till thou hast brought us safe through all trials and dangers to be ever with thee, there to live in thy sight and love, world without end. Amen."

**Meditation.**—So many people to-day have been thinking, praying and planning for victory. Yet victory, according to the Christian's viewpoint, will never be permanently decisive unless the victory of might is superseded by a victory of right. And that means intense devotion in individual and communal living to some of the truths of the Christian message. In place of a talk and scripture reading as we usually have them, let us give ear to some of the statements of the New Testament, and after each saying let us pause for a moment and think on and pray for the ways in which the Christian message contained in the saying may be wrought out in the stuff of which this world is made.

"Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God. And everyone who loves the Father loves the sons born of him. This is how we are sure that we love God's children by loving God and obeying his commands. (For love to God means the keeping of his commands.) And his commands are not irksome for whatever is born of God conquers the world. Who is the world's conqueror, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God."

(Pause for silent meditation and prayer.)

"He who possesses the Son possesses life; he who does not possess the Son of God does not possess life."

"No one can serve two masters; either he will hate the one and love the other or else he will stand by the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and Mammon."

"If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me."

"You must love the Lord your God with your whole soul, and your whole mind. . . . You must love your neighbor as yourself."

"As I have loved you, you are to love one another; by this everyone will recognize that you are my disciples if you have love one for another."

"Let all you do be done in love."

"I have fought in the good fight; I have run my course; I have kept the faith. Now the crown of a good life awaits me with which the Lord, that just Judge, will reward me on the great day; and not only me, but all who have loved and longed for his appearance."

"Go on growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Hymn.—No. 109, "Crown him with many crowns."

Business Session.

Home Missionary Notes.

Overseas Letter.

Intercessory Prayers.

Talk.—"Arabia—Restless Wanderers of the Desert."

Hymn.—No. 360, "Father of all, from land and sea."

Benediction.

The scripture passages which have been quoted in the meditation are taken from Moffat's translation of the Bible. It will help immeasurably in the use of this meditation if, after each statement of scripture is read out, the leader will pause for about one-half minute, in which time the women of the meeting will be able to think and pray around the thought of the text. Perhaps an attitude of prayer throughout the reading of the meditation itself will contribute to the devotional understanding of "the victorious life."

## MISSIONARY EDUCATION.

WITH the June meetings we conclude the studies towards a better understanding of some of the lesser known fields at home and abroad. These, together with the devotional topics on "the Christian life," have been well received. We thank all who have assisted in the writing of these articles and topics.

The new 1944-45 syllabus will shortly be in the hands of the State secretaries. We hope that the subjects will be widely used. The devotional theme is "The Living Church at Worship," and the topic papers are based on the general subject of "The Living Church at Work." The following is a detailed list of the topic subjects—

### 1944

July—The Underground Churches of Europe.

August—The Church in Australia—(1) Chaplains at Work.

Sept.—The Courageous Church in China.

Oct.—The Church in Australia—(2) Preparations for Peace.

Nov.—The United Church of Japan.

Dec.—The Church in Australia—(3) Compassionate Services.

### 1945

Feb.—The Changing Church in India.

March—The Church in Australia—(4) Co-operative Fellowship.

April—The Missionary Church of the Pacific Islands.

May—The Church in Australia—(5) A Charter for the Aborigines.

June—The World Council of Churches.

A suggested reading list will be found on the back of the printed syllabus. The books listed are those which are most easily procured at the present time. Several members of a society could each buy a single book and loan them out to other members throughout the year, and especially to those whose work it will be to prepare for the topic papers at the appropriate meetings.

## Victoria STATE NEWS

AT the meeting of the Women's Conference Executive on May 5, Mrs. Jeffery, president, was in the chair. Mrs. Washfold led the devotional session.

The president welcomed former and new delegates, visitors and the president of General Conference, Mr. E. L. Williams, who brought a greeting and also a message on the necessity of retaining a vision of first things and big things.

After the reading of minutes and correspondence, the roll-call of delegates was taken. The treasurer's statement showed a balance of £26/12/9.

An announcement concerning the appointment of Mrs. Waterman as missionary elect for the New Hebrides was made, and an appeal for goods to be sent with the missionaries to be brought to the June meeting.

As Miss Rometch was unable to continue as superintendent of the Isolated Sisters' Committee, a suggestion was made that the committee meet and appoint a successor.

The following recommendations were received and carried:—

Representatives to the World Day of Prayer Committee, Mesdames Jeffery and Cleland; to the Inter-church Council, Mesdames Scambler, Jeffery, Gill, Turner, Cleland and Williams; and Mrs. McColl delegate to British & Foreign Bible Society.

Ushers for the year, Mesdames Mann and Hodges; pianist, Mrs. Tucker; flowers, Mesdames Hall and Lewis.

After general discussion it was moved that six months' trial be given to a method whereby superintendents forward monthly reports to the secretary five days prior to Executive Council meeting, to be typed ready for distribution to delegates, and any superintendent wishing to make an announcement to place request on president's table for time to speak.

## New South Wales

The newly-elected president of the General Conference, Mr. R. H. Wakeley, gave an appreciated address at the conference executive meeting on May 4. Mrs. Burns was to have given an address, but she was unable to attend because of illness. Mrs. Lewis read a paper which had been written by Mrs. Burns.

The jubilee offering has now reached £258.

## Western Australia

The Women's Auxiliary Conference has signed the "Women's Charter." The secretary, Mrs. Pollard, has been asked to speak at several women's meetings to explain the charter, and several more meetings are planned.

## Tasmania

The Tasmanian Women's Auxiliary executive meeting was held on May 2, at Collins-st., Hobart. Mrs. Cole, the president, presided, and Mrs. C. P. Hughes led the devotional session. While afternoon tea was being served, Mrs. Cole outlined the work that had been planned for the coming conference year.

Two new mission bands have been started. A gift of twenty Alexander hymnals has been given by Tasmanian churches of Christ to the sanatorium. Forty-four visits have been paid to the hospitals.

In future the executive meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of each month.

## South Australia

Miss Clipstone was congratulated on her engagement with Mr. Harold Finger at the monthly meeting of the conference, at Grote-st. chapel on May 5. Miss H. Grant led the devotions. A good attendance was present to hear a letter read from Mr. and Mrs. Roberts, of Norseman, W.A. The Temperance Committee's essay competition prize night was held on May 20.

## The Australian Christian

# Notes on Current Topics

# The Home Circle

J. C. F. Pittman

## DON'T WORRY

I WENT to hear Mark Guy Pearce. He was splendid. His text was, "I say unto you: Don't worry" (Matt. 6: 24-34). I will try to jot down some of the thoughts, and you must fill up the blanks with all the sweetest, finest ideas you can conjure up. "Ye cannot serve God and worry; whatever possesses your soul is your master; if worry overpowers faith, then you are letting go of God, and serving the cruel tyrant. Is not the life more than meat? You did not have to worry about life. I gave it to you, the marvellous indestructible germ that has fructified into manhood or womanhood without any thought or anxiety on your part, and shall I not with the greater give you the lesser? Do I not know that food is required to sustain bodily existence, and shall not I, who made and fashioned the body, give what is needful for its existence? Is not the body more than the clothes that cover it? If I was able to make bones that are strong, sinews that are supple, flesh and skin and joints, am I not able to supply the clothing needful for the comfort, the protection, the health of the body? Behold the fowls of the air, clothed with warm feathers—'A nest to lie in, a heaven to fly in,' and shall not I give to my children more than I give to my creatures? Consider the lilies—'With ground to grow in, and a heaven to grow up to.' Solomon was clothed with outward apparel made by other hands; Hiram, the widow's son, had to make the crown he wore. Take the crown and the clothes away and what was poor Solomon? Examine the lilies, their beauty is through and through, in every leaf and petal, stem and fibre, and if God is willing to give such beauty to a fast-fleeting flower, how much more will he give the children of his love? 'He that spareth not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?' We vex our souls more with to-morrow's imaginings than with to-day's realities, and level ourselves down from Christianity to heathendom. Eating, drinking, and wearing apparel are all that occupy the gross minds of unregenerated savages. When we are anxious and full of worry about material things we bring ourselves to their standard."

## The Family Altar

TOPIC.—LEST WE FORGET

- June 5—Zechariah 9: 1-9.  
" 6—1 Cor. 4: 14-21.  
" 7—Hebrews 1.  
" 8—Hebrews 2: 1-14.  
" 9—2 Peter 1: 12-21.  
" 10—2 Peter 3: 1-7.  
" 11—Zechariah 9: 10-17; John 12: 1-19.

THEN, as the apostle records, when Jesus was glorified, the disciples remembered the messianic prophecies. So, in certain crises of human experience, and not till then, memory bridges the long intervening distances of time, and we recall some word of warning, or gracious deed, or loving entreaty. Then, and not till then, do we remember, either with a pang of regret or a thrill of joy some word the heeding of which would have saved us from swerving over to the by-path of sin or error, or cheered us amid our sorrows and struggles. Rather than that, the disciples should then remember it would have been infinitely better had they carefully considered such prophecies when first they read them. And how much better is it that we, instead of awaiting some great crisis to arouse us and lead us then to look back with vain regrets, should even now "give earnest heed" to the things we hear, "lest haply we should drift away from them."

## Censorship Dispute Settled

IT is good news to hear that the censorship dispute between the government and newspapers has been settled. The wisdom of the advice given by Sir John Latham that the parties to the dispute confer on the matter has been demonstrated. The code of censorship principles agreed upon provides that "censorship shall be imposed exclusively for reasons of defence security"—not for maintenance of morale or prevention of despondency or alarm. Again—"censorship shall not prevent the reporting of industrial disputes or stoppages. Criticism and comment, however strongly expressed, shall be free." The preservation of our liberties is an important matter, and with hosts of others I am glad that a successful resistance has been made to actions which, however well meant, unduly curbed the freedom of our people.

## Economic Security

The signing of the Philadelphia Charter by the president of the International Labor Office Conference (Mr. Nash) and the acting director of the I.L.O. (Mr. Phelan) in the presence of President Roosevelt and the representatives of 40 nations was an event of outstanding importance. In his speech on the occasion President Roosevelt declared: "Economic security and opportunity shall be the central aim of our international deliberations after the war." "You delegates have affirmed the right of all human beings to material well-being and spiritual development under conditions of freedom, dignity, economic security and opportunity," he said. "Attainment of these conditions must constitute the central aim of national and international policy, the worthiness and success of which in future will be measured by the extent to which they promote

the achievement of this end." On behalf of the United States the president endorsed the declarations and pledged the government's support. If post-war reconstruction is carried out in the spirit of the words I have quoted, many people will have cause to bless the Philadelphia Charter.

## Our Interdependence

In the speech of President Roosevelt mentioned in the preceding paragraph, there was one sentence which deserves special notice. He said that the fundamental principle of the I.L.O. declaration—that *poverty anywhere constituted a danger to prosperity everywhere*—should be recognised by every nation. The words I have italicised express a truth which has been strangely neglected. They remind me of that great word of the Apostle Paul when he spoke of the church under the figure of a human body and said, "Whether one member suffereth, all the members suffer with it." We should recognise the principle of national and international interdependence, but there is also great need of an appreciation of the principle as applicable to church life. In a local church the failure or sin of one member makes the whole membership suffer. So one Christian living the victorious life helps the whole church. But it is true in a wider sense: Let there be division or failure in one State, and the work of a distant State may suffer. It is just as true that conspicuous success in any quarter assists the cause as a whole. We should sorrow at the suffering of any, and rejoice with those who rejoice. And we should seek to promote the welfare of the whole body of Christ.

A. R. Main

# Young at One Hundred Years

W. R. Hibbert

TO qualify as a member of the youth movement at the age of one hundred is an achievement, and the Victorian youth leader believes it is headline news. Mrs. John Sargent, of 10 Audley-st., Brunswick, Melbourne, celebrates her hundredth birthday on Saturday, June 3. Miss Nineteen Forty-four is too busy to read the morning newspaper, but it is not so with our friend of a hundred summers, for she reads it with keen interest and is ready to discuss its news items with you. The measure of her youthfulness may be appreciated by reason of the fact that she reads her newspaper without the aid of glasses. Few youth include a religious journal in their weekly expenses, but our friend is up to date, and enjoys her weekly journal, the "Australian Christian."

During the interview the writer was searching for the secret that sustains physical, mental and spiritual vitality at a hundred years. The secret seemed to be that faith in Christ had disciplined life and given a radiant hope that took the fret out of life and produced a poise and calm that was not disturbed or ruffled by things temporal. Her life story yielded the fact that she could make no claim to robust physical powers, hence it was evident that a life disciplined by Christ has present compensations and durable satisfactions as well as future ones.

A well-worn Bible was eloquent testimony

that there was never a day without spiritual food and converse with her heavenly Father. Her cherished Bible was a present from her husband on the day of her baptism. It was displaced recently for one of larger type. As the writer handled this Bible, he became excited when he discovered that it had been presented by A. B. Maston in recognition of hospitality favors.

Mrs. Sargent was baptised by Stephen Cheek, a pioneer evangelist, in the Coliban river on September 8, 1878. When our brotherhood historian prospects at Taradale he will discover a gold-mine of historic facts.

Thirty-four years ago Mrs. Sargent moved to Melbourne, and has been in fellowship with the Brunswick church. Mrs. Levert-Scott, also a member of the same congregation, cares for her mother.

Youth fears to grow old; but a visit to our friend of a century of years rebukes that fear. She justifies the claim that youth is not a time of life; it is a state of the mind. It is the freshness of the deep springs of life.

## THE WEAVER

"BEHIND our life the Weaver stands  
And works his wondrous will;  
We leave it all in his wise hands,  
And trust his perfect skill.  
Should mystery enshroud his plan,  
And our short sight be dim,  
We will not try the whole to scan,  
But leave each thread to him."

# Tasmanian Women's Conference

TASMANIAN Women's 34th Annual Conference was held at Margaret-st. chapel, Launceston, on Thursday, April 6, 1944. Conference opened at 11 a.m., Mrs. Madel-Cole, president, in the chair. The doxology was sung and prayer offered. Mrs. Cole read Psalm 97, and gave a short talk.

Mrs. Hughes, deputy secretary, read minutes of previous conference. These were confirmed. Miss K. Skirving was appointed minute secretary for conference day.

Greetings were received from sisters in Western Australia, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, also from Mr. F. T. Saunders, Mr. R. Edmunds, Mrs. Boxhall, Mrs. Duff, and the Women's Federal Conference of Churches of Christ. Telegrams of greeting were received from Mrs. Roberts, Norseman, and Mrs. Arnot, Melbourne.

Financial statement was received.

The obituary session was conducted by Mrs. Hughes. Hymn 622 was sung, and prayer offered.

Mrs. Hagger brought greetings from Victoria. Part of Romans 8 was read, and Mrs. Hagger delivered a very fine address. Mrs. Alderton rendered a solo beautifully.

It was decided that Women's Executive be located in the south.

The following were elected: President, Mrs. Madel-Cole; vice-presidents, Mrs. C. P. Hughes (South), Mrs. S. H. Wilson (North); secretary, Mrs. C. Watkins; minute secretary, Mrs. K. Woolley; treasurer, Mrs. Warmbrunn. Superintendents: Dorcas, Mrs. Foot; Foreign Missions, Mrs. Sulzberger; Hospital, Mrs. Ashlin; Temperance, Mrs. Younger; Prayer Meeting, Mrs. Golley; Isolation, Mrs. Clifford; Mission Bands, Mrs. Boxhall; Home Missions, Mrs. Duncan; Obituary, Mrs. Plummer.

At afternoon session Miss K. Skirving led devotional session and Mr. F. T. Saunders led in prayer. Mrs. Cole extended a welcome to all visitors; Mrs. Hagger responded. An organ solo was given by Mrs. H. Stephens, and a recitation by Mrs. Staples.

In the roll-call of churches the following were represented: Collins-st., Hobart; West Hobart; Margaret-st., Launceston; Invermay; Launceston. Mrs. Colbeck rendered a solo. Mr. F. T. Saunders gave a short, interesting talk on the work of the College of the Bible. The offering amounted to £1/19/-. Afternoon tea was served, and the conference continued.

Mrs. Hagger gave a brief outline of the work of mission bands, and urged their formation in other churches. The motto for the year: "Raise the standard high for the Lord."

Resolutions were received regarding loyalty to king and country; youth work in Tasmania; the strict control of liquor.

Home mission aim for this year is £60.

Mrs. Pritchard introduced the new officers.

It was agreed that letters of appreciation for services during past year be sent to Mrs. Taylor, secretary, and Mrs. Kingston, treasurer. A vote of thanks was accorded the ladies of Launceston for providing luncheon and afternoon tea.—Mrs. C. Watkins.

## THREE TYPES

MAY we not say that there are three types of congregation that are gathered together? One is no better than a sand drift, blown by the wind that bloweth where it listeth. The second is like the iron filings drawn together by some magnet but soon falling all apart when the magic of the magnet is withdrawn. But the true congregation is an organic structure held together by the very force of life derived from the Source of life himself.—Anon.

## On Reading the Bible

(Continued from front page.)

had made up their own minds as to the type of person the Messiah ought to be. Their Messiah must be a great military leader; a king with military might exceeding David's. Such a leader would give the Jewish people freedom from political enemies and power in this world. The Jews read a plan, or theory, into the scriptures, and failed to learn the true facts. When Christ came as a Good Shepherd and not as a conqueror, they could not recognise him. Had they listened to what Moses had said of the Christ, and not hearkened to their theorists, they would have recognised their Lord when he spoke to them.

We, too, may read our theories into scripture, and aim at making scripture fit our views rather than allowing God to speak to us.

Only as we free our minds of our own views, and open our souls to allow God's message to penetrate into the depths, shall we gain great blessing and help while reading the Bible. Then, having heard the voice of God, let us have the courage to apply to daily life the truths announced to us.

## The Church God Meant

(Continued from page 254.)

desirable?" There is a question much more important than either of these. It is this one, "Is it the will of God?" Frequently the Lord's prayer is repeated in inter-denominational gatherings, ". . . thy will be done on earth, as it is done in heaven. . . ." Yet in being divided off from one another by denominational walls, Christians are not fulfilling the will of God; they are not practising what they pray.

A great work of art exists in the mind and heart of its creator before it exists on canvas or in marble. Redemption existed first in the purposes of God before it found its realisation in the sacrificial ministry of Jesus Christ. The church also existed first in the purposes of God; a church to be marked by loyalty to his Son, by spiritual vitality and by unity. The church described in the pages of the New Testament fulfilled these ideals. Do we want to see the church fulfilling to-day the will of God for her life? Do we want to see her the church God meant her to be? We are like the spokes of a wheel, the nearer they draw to the hub the nearer they draw to one another. And the nearer we draw to Christ in loyalty and in love, the nearer we also shall draw to one another.

## Venture in Evangelism

AT OAKLEIGH, VICTORIA

LAST December a recommendation from the officers that the church hold an evangelistic mission with a team of men on vacation from the College of the Bible was unanimously endorsed by a meeting of more than one hundred members.

After careful preparation, including home prayer meetings, the mission commenced on Sunday, May 14, with 165 present at the morning meeting. The mission team and young people of the church participated in a seven-miles hike, followed by tea and social evening on Saturday, 13th. The young people's response was immediate and lasting. They co-operated heartily throughout the mission. The team included Jack Bond, Bart Burt, and Colin Carmel (speakers), and Harold Long (song leader). Each man, with his own individuality, yet co-operated splendidly to make a perfect team. The church members rallied in a most heartening way.

A series of "happy hours" for school children proved a great success. The writer was impressed by the manner in which the restless

energy of eighty children was directed into avenues of praise and reverent prayer. Delegations from neighboring churches encouraged the people at Oakleigh. Thursday, May 25, will long be remembered. After an open-air meeting supported by at least 150, a procession of witness marched, singing gospel hymns on the way to the church. About 240 people crowded into the chapel. The singing of visiting choirs, and soloists, Oakleigh choir, Sunday school, and Girls' Club choir, and soloists contributed to witness of mission. The congregational singing was assisted by organists and pianists. The team addressed J.C.E. meet-



The Chapel at Oakleigh.

ings, Bible classes, women's meeting, and youth tea. The crowning meeting came on Sunday evening, May 28, when at the conclusion of Mr. Bond's sermon seven young people confessed Christ. There were fifteen confessions for the mission, including a mother of S.S. children and an R.A.A.F. sergeant on leave from Queensland. Some hundreds of Austral pamphlets and booklets were sold during the mission. A feature was the support of members of other churches in Oakleigh, some of whom came after their own service to participate in the service of song following the final gospel service. Oakleigh church will remember with appreciation the services of these men from the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, and thanks Principal Scambler for his guiding suggestions and interest.—Stan. Neighbour.

## WESTERN SUBURBAN DISTRICT CONFERENCE, MELBOURNE.

THE seventh half-yearly Western Suburban District Conference was held at Williamstown on Saturday, May 20, under chairmanship of D. Ritchie, of Footscray. In the afternoon, following a short business session, a stirring appeal to youth by W. R. Hibbert, B. Huntsman and David Hibbert, assisted by Miss Esme Quirk, to choose and seize the highest and best things of life, was presented in the form of a novel "sale by auction." Miss Quirk sang a solo, the words of which she had composed herself.

Between 50 and 60 sat to a basket tea, arrangements for which were in the hands of ladies of Williamstown church.

A song service led by Arthur Haskell preceded evening session, at which inspiring and challenging addresses, "The Thrill of Religion" and "The Call to Evangelism" were delivered by A. E. Hurren and Wallace Jackel respectively. The service was of a high order and stimulating. An anthem by Williamstown choir and a duet by Mr. Haskell and Mrs. W. Griffith were worthy contributions to a helpful conference. Attendances in afternoon were fair, while those in evening were very good.

Officers elected for ensuing year were: President, A. G. Bennett (Sunshine); vice-president, J. E. Thomas (Williamstown); secretary and treasurer, R. A. Kemp (Williamstown).—R.A.K.

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# Here and There

By courtesy of 3UZ, selected portions of scripture entitled "Gems from Holy Literature," are being broadcast from that station on behalf of the Free Bible Society of Victoria, every Sunday from 10.30 a.m. to 10.45 a.m.

We have been asked to announce that on the "day of liberation" the chapel at Swanston-st., Melbourne, will be open for prayer and meditation from 12 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. Sessions will be conducted by J. E. Thomas and C. B. Nance-Kivell.

The central Bible school, conducted on Wednesday evenings in the Nicholas Hall, Lonsdale-st., Melbourne, is growing in interest and numbers. More than 400 were present last week. Preachers of the different churches are sharing in the teaching lectures. At present Bishop Hart is giving a series on the Gospel of John.

C. L. Lang ended his ministry with the church at Ormond, Vic., on May 28. In morning he gave a fine address. At gospel service he gave a helpful message. Girl Guides had a parade in morning. At Bible school Mr. Lang was presented with a gift. At gospel service Ron Lang sang a solo beautifully. Mrs. George is in hospital with a broken thigh.

The quarterly rally of the North Suburban Churches District Conference (Melbourne) was held in Brunswick chapel on May 27. After business session an interested gathering listened to a splendid address by Mr. Combridge entitled "The Administration of the Local Church." After numerous questions had been asked and answered, the meeting closed with prayer by Mr. Withers, president. All who attended felt that a time of good experience had been enjoyed.

A most successful united intercessory service was held in town hall, Gympie, Qld., on May 16, when the church was well represented. A record number of Endeavorers journeyed to Amamoor for district rally on May 20. A. J. Fisher presiding over evening meeting. May 21 was observed as Red Cross Day, with special service at night, attended by V.A.D.'s and Boy Scouts. Pte. F. Collingwood gave a personal testimony of the value of the Red Cross in New Guinea. At close of service one young woman made the good confession. Offering was donated to Red Cross.

On May 21 the 39th anniversary of church at North Sydney, N.S.W., and the 16th of the new building was celebrated. A. W. Ladbrook was morning speaker. I. A. Paternoster's gospel address was followed by one adult confession. The function was continued on 24th, R. H. Wakeley, conference president, presiding. H. J. Patterson's address was stimulating. Contributions of speakers and singers were much appreciated. During a social hour a few mite boxes yielded over £17 for building fund. A special appeal is now being launched to raise £200 for building fund to mark the 40th year.

At annual meeting of church at Bambra-rd., Caulfield, Vic., May 18, all auxiliaries presented excellent reports, and the following were elected to the board: Elders, W. A. Brown (secretary), G. Nicholls, R. Sheehan, T. Thomas; deacons, P. Padey (treasurer), Rutherford, Pearson, Goodman, Ferris, Grenfell, Dowsey, Saunders. Mr. Griffiths, sen., now at Castlemaine Rest Home, is a life elder. Mr. Clipstone reported having paid over 1000 pastoral visits during year. Ladies of church assisted at special mothers' service on May 21, and Endeavorers served a cup of tea at after-church fellowship. H. M. Clipstone addressed both services on May 28. June Verity and Joan Fryer are out of hospital.

On May 21 the church at Sth. Yarra, Vic., received into fellowship Mrs. Watson, by letter from Malvern-Caulfield, and farewelled Miss Downes and Trevor Downes, who are removing to Kew. At night there were two confessions, and a baptismal service was conducted. During the day the church welcomed on leave J. Sinclair, J. Roper, J. Pitts and A. Searle. The latter is posted to Melbourne. On May 23 the Women's Guild held a luncheon, proceeds for Sudan United Mission; about fifty ladies were present from nearby churches; Mr. Lunn was speaker and Mrs. C. Cole soloist. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Smith, whose husband met with an accident and is in Williamstown Hospital. On May 28 E. Roffey spoke morning and evening. Two were baptised at night.

At East Kew, Vic., there were special services on May 21 and 24 for 21st anniversary of church. J. E. Thomas spoke in morning. The roll was called, each member responding with verse of scripture. Pleasant Sunday afternoon was well attended. V. Margetts brought a stirring message. H. Brice (first secretary) read the scriptures, and Miss Joan Mott was soloist. Evening preacher was S. R. Baker, and Miss A. Scarce was soloist. After-church fellowship was held in kinder room, and refreshments were served. On May 24, at Fellowship Tea, the church was challenged by the message of T. R. Morris. L. E. Brooker presided, and items were given by Misses Clarke, Kewley and Ron. Brooker. On morning of May 28, Mr. Candy exchanged with Mr. Greenwood, of Barkers-rd., Hawthorn Methodist. At 4.15 p.m. the young folk attended Eastern Suburbs youth fellowship at Hartwell church. Evening preacher was Mr. Candy.

Youth Sunday at Maryborough, Vic., was observed on May 7, young people taking part at all services. Special singing was rendered by girls' and boys' choir. Mr. Hindman gave morning address, Mr. Chivell speaking at night. Mothers of church were entertained by P.B.P., Mothers Companions and Explorers, at social Good Companions and Explorers, at social evenings in honor of Mother's Day. On May 14, in evening, there was special singing by a mothers' choir. Mr. Chivell's addresses were enjoyed by good congregations. Mr. Hughes, M.L.A., was special speaker at the 82nd anniversary of church. A pleasant Sunday afternoon was held in town hall. Mr. Hughes' messages were greatly appreciated. He conducted "Church of the Air," assisted by girls' choir. A happy time of fellowship was spent at anniversary tea on Tuesday. J.C.E. held a successful social on May 25.

Anniversary services of the Sunday school, Unley, S.A., were enjoyable. J. E. Brooke gave a talk at afternoon meeting and S. H. Lovell directed singing of children. The concert on May 3 was enjoyed by a large audience. Main school presented a play, "Jesus of Nazareth." A mother and daughter banquet was held on May 9. Youth Week concluded on May 14 with a youth tea. There were also a Bible quiz, a Bible cross-word puzzle competition, and a debate by four young people. Moving pictures were presented by C. L. Johnston. Forty young people provided special music, and several helped Mr. Nankivell in evening service. The church lost an old and faithful member in the home-going of Miss T. Giffen. At Mother's Day on May 14 there were large attendances. Over 180 broke bread for day. In evening 18 mothers of Service men and women were given posies, and 9 others received posies in their homes. Several ladies of church assisted in service. On Monday morning a car load of flowers from mothers of church was delivered to 105th A.G. Hospital.

## From Week to Week

THE very interesting journal, "Britain To-day," is sent to me from Britain each month. The March number has a helpful article on "The English Language," in which a plea for direct and simple speech is made by Ivor Brown. He says, "It seems to me incontestable that English as it is written to-day is far less shapely, vivid and robust than it was in recent centuries." He believes that the statements set out on government forms and official reports are to blame for the love of "jargon." The motives for using such expressions are several, according to Mr. Brown, "partly a desire to seem cultured and important, partly a dread of saying something crisp and definite."

In an article appearing in a recent issue of "The Herald," Walter Murdoch also urged the need of writers and speakers using words the common man could understand. He said that it has been found a number of men in the Forces, when reading papers, pass over words of more than two syllables. Therefore the truth can reach the minds of those men only if it is expressed simply and clearly.

The problem is presented to us in another way by G. W. H. Loudon, in an article in "The Expository Times," February, 1944. He speaks of the difference found in the speech used in the market-place and of that in use in the church. He explains this by referring to sayings common in a family group and known only in that circle; members of another family cannot understand those idioms until they are made clear.

The people who sit in the "pews" are not familiar with the idioms or language of the man in the "pulpit." The writer finds it difficult to bridge that gulf. People who are used to the speech of the market place do not understand the terms preachers use freely.

It has been the plea of the Restoration Movement that the language of the scriptures be used in worship. The speech of the Bible is simple and direct and has strength. If we are to bridge the gulf between the pew and the pulpit, it seems we must use more and more the language of the scriptures.

IT is not easy to express thoughts in writing clearly and briefly. Walter Murdoch, the well-known essayist, complains that he has been humbled by people who write to him and show they have misunderstood his articles. Well, others cannot hope to make themselves clear always when such a master of words fails.

A correspondent has questioned my article entitled, "Beware of Tavern-keepers," in which I referred to the danger of those teachings that urge reform but neglect to take into account the spiritual basis of life.

There are those who ignore the need of calling men to repentance and of urging that men ought to turn to God if the evils of this world are to be banished. To show the need of turning to God is not to deny that there must be a social application of the gospel. It is my belief that men must be brought back to God if wars, slums and poverty are to be banished from society. Unless there is that spiritual background efforts to reform society will fail to win permanent results. The church must preach the full message in which it is shown that a return to God will save society, and that repentance must have fruits in social behaviour. It is an error to teach and preach as if the affairs of man can be set right by social theories that do not take into account the need of men turning to God. However, we need to show that repentance demands that we do all we can to rid the world of social and economic ills.

# News of the Churches

## South Australia

**Forestville.**—A young woman confessed Christ at gospel meeting on May 21. Junior and intermediate societies of Christian Endeavor held a combined service on Mother's Day, when visitors were present.

**Edwardstown West.**—At a recent meeting of officers, it was decided to commence K.S.P. and P.B.P. Chapters, and on May 26 a social was held as a prelude to opening shortly. On 20th, some members gave Mrs. Tabe a surprise visit on occasion of her 80th birthday.

**Prospect.**—Services on May 21 were addressed by A. E. Brown; good attendances. In evening John Mackenzie (Glen Iris College of Bible) presided. Work in all C.E. departments is in good spirit. Reports from boys on service show all in good health. C. Sander and Lyall Wainwright have returned to duty. Allan Fax and Ralph Brokensha have been called up for service.

**Bordertown.**—On Mother's Day appropriate services were held, W. Russell speaking in morning, and E. P. Verco at night. On following Wednesday night a mother and daughter social was held. Several items and a tableau were presented, and supper was served by fathers and sons. Church extends sympathy to Miss Warncken and Mrs. Hould in the passing of their mother, and to Mrs. McDonald in the loss of her father. Sunday school with schools of other bodies is planning a combined youth rally. Don Verco and D. Carson have been home on leave.

**Pt. Pirie.**—Youth Week was observed. Apr. 30 was commencement, Mr. Anderson, a visitor, being speaker. A youth tea took place on that day, 17 young people attending. Mr. Anderson spoke. A young people's social was held on May 8 in aid of Morialta Children's Home. On May 7 Mr. Pigdon spoke in morning. A youth service was held at night; L.A.C. Chappell led and two young members of R.A.A.F. gave brief addresses. Mr. Pigdon also gave a short address. Mother's Day was observed on May 14. Mr. Pigdon spoke in morning. At night Mr. Dawes, president S.A. Band of Hope Union, was speaker.

## GOOD BIBLE SCHOOL

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE, 230; SEVERAL CONFESSIONS

**CRUYDON.**—Attendances at all services are good, and all auxiliaries are working well. On April 30, in absence of the preacher (indisposed), Mr. Graham took both services. Following evening address Mr. Messenger, R.A.A.F., and his wife confessed Christ. On May 7 Mr. Banks addressed both services. There were three further decisions. On May 14, in morning, the church enjoyed fellowship with Caleb Lawrence and family, of Naracorte. Five were immersed, including Campbell, Clarence and Lyall/Lawrence. On May 20 Mr. Banks addressed both services. A young woman confessed Christ. Bible school is in splendid heart, with average attendance of 230. K.S.P. Club is re-commencing after recess. Recent offering in aid of T.B. soldiers amounted to £10/8/-. The choir, under leadership of Mr. Battle, is rendering valuable service.

**Cottonville.**—Mr. Brooke is home from hospital, and will spend a time at Mildura convalescing. During his absence Dr. Messent gave morning address, and Senior Chaplain H. R. Taylor the gospel message on May 14. These Mother's Day services were much appreciated. On 21st S. E. Riches was speaker at both services, and also spoke to Bible

class in afternoon. Mr. Eddie Brand is still sick. Cpl. Reg. Bradley has had a period in hospital in N.S.W. Pte. Rob. Manning had an attack of malaria upon returning to his unit. Violet Bradley, W.A.A.A.F., and Valerie Williamson, Land Army, were on leave and attended services on May 14. Jack Coventry, R.A.N., has also arrived home on leave. £20/10/- has already been received for Temple Day offering. A young people's social was held on evening of May 20. Basketball team has been re-formed and has joined Churches of Christ Association.

## New South Wales

**Burwood.**—The Bible class has commenced a week-night Fellowship, which meets on Friday evenings. Offerings totalling over £295 have been received to pay off building debt of £240. Church officers tendered Mr. and Mrs. D. Wakeley a banquet on the occasion of their Silver Wedding on May 20. Mr. Wakeley commenced a mission at Georgetown on May 27. Ken. Taylor addressed morning meeting on May 21.

**Lismore.**—Endeavors entertained mothers of church at a social evening on May 9. A small gift was given to all mothers present, and sent to those sick and aged. A presentation was also made to oldest and youngest mothers present. Endeavors also decorated chapel for Mother's Day, when morning meeting was very well attended. Mrs. Walker was received into fellowship following confession of faith and baptism. Sympathy of church goes out to J. Greenhalgh and relatives in the loss of Mrs. J. Greenhalgh, who was called home on May 4.

**Bankstown.**—The work continues to progress. On May 7 a man was baptised, and was received into fellowship on 21st. A Mother's Day service was held on May 14, Junior and Young People's Endeavor taking part in gospel service. S.S. children all received a spray of flowers with an invitation to gospel service to take home to mothers. Fellowship was enjoyed with Cpl. B. Channell, returned from New Guinea. Mrs. Pearson has had a serious operation, and is recovering in Prince Alfred Hospital. Mr. Blackburn has conducted services throughout the month, with help of visiting speakers in mornings.

**Penhurst.**—Mr. Saville exhorted on morning of May 7, and on 14th Mr. Eager exchanged with Mr. Henderson, of Bexley North. Mr. Eager has been speaker at all other meetings. On May 10, bi-monthly spiritual rally of St. George district churches was held, A. L. Carter speaking to a good congregation. Mrs. Frazer was soloist. Youth Council of youth auxiliary leaders has been formed, first meeting on May 3. A social evening was given Miss Betty Byrnes on May 20 to celebrate her coming of age. It has been decided to make free distribution of church periodicals to each family, cost to be met from publications fund. During month church has renewed fellowship with Don Woods (A.I.F.) and Bill Byrnes (R.A.A.F.), on leave.

**Wollongong.**—The third anniversary of opening of church of Christ in Wollongong will long be remembered. The missionaries, E. C. Hinrichsen and V. Morris, who were used by God to the establishment of the church, returned for the day. Another visitor was Mr. Carter, of H.M. Committee. The building was well filled in morning, when the church was greatly stimulated by Mr. Hinrichsen's address. In the afternoon Mr. Hinrichsen addressed the first outside meeting arranged by the church, when about 55 met in the Mechanics' Institute, Keiraville, to hear the word. Meetings will be continued there for some weeks in the hope of winning souls from that dis-

trict. The crowning meeting came at night, when the church building was crowded, and in response to Mr. Hinrichsen's appeal eight came forward to make the good confession.

## BECOMES SELF-SUPPORTING

### HOME MISSION CHURCH MAKES GOOD PROGRESS

**INVERELL.**—Church secretary T. Young was suddenly taken ill on eve of Hinrichsen-Morris mission. After an operation he has recovered and returned to work. Peggy Goode and George Mason have been some weeks in district hospital and are making good progress. The preacher, Mr. Burgin, after severe illness, has been discharged from hospital and is recuperating at Grafton. He hoped to resume his ministry on May 28. Since conclusion of mission Arthur Baker, of Ballina, has conducted all services, and members are appreciative of his willingness to render such able and so necessary ministry in the critical period following a mission. A. Hall replaces T. Young as church secretary. Since close of mission, the church has become fully self-supporting after receiving assistance from H.M.C. for twenty years.

**Grafton.**—The recently established Bible school at South Grafton has an enrolment of 20 scholars. Teachers include Miss D. Gill (superintendent), Miss Beryl Olive and Mrs. M. Mavewell. On May 14 P. J. Pond conducted a Mother's Day service in School of Arts hall there. L. Burgin, of Inverell, has been recuperating here after illness. Other visitors have included Sgt. Keith Pond (R.A.A.F.) and Mrs. Pond. Sgt. Pond assisted at Sunday morning service on May 21, and occupied the pulpit in evening. At a recent guild meeting Mrs. Pond, wife of P. J. Pond, was welcomed; also Mrs. Kennedy, Sydney, one time a member; and Mrs. Perring as a new member. "Dad" Ellan is in indifferent health, while Mrs. McCallum, sen., and H. I. Ager are seriously ill in Base Hospital. P. J. Pond conducted Mother's Day service on May 14, Mrs. Perring being soloist. Bible school scholars are preparing for annual examination. Miss Ivy Fernace is still absent in Newcastle. Mrs. L. Cavanagh has returned with her family from extended holiday at Yamba; also Mrs. Thomas and Bevan.

## Western Australia

**Perth.**—The nursery with 26 voluntary helpers has become very useful to mothers. On morning of May 21 the service was broadcast. The choir gave valued help. J. K. Robinson's message strengthened trust in Christ. At 7.30 p.m. V. Conigrave rendered a solo, and Mr. Robinson was preacher.

**Cottesloe.**—Attendances have maintained a good average. On April 18 A. Anderson spoke to the church in interests of overseas missions. On Youth Sunday, April 30, teachers entertained older scholars at tea and Mr. Steele gave a talk. On May 12 the Y.W.L. entertained mothers and fathers at a Mother's Day social. On May 14 a well-attended Mother's Day service was arranged by Bible school in afternoon, when items were given by school and a talk by the Methodist minister. In evening, Y.W.L. took part, and one Bible school girl made the good confession. On May 3 Mrs. Johnsen was called home at the age of 81, after a long and useful life. Boys' Explorer and Good Companions Clubs are established and making good progress.

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## Tasmania

**Devonport.**—On May 3, at prayer meeting, D. R. Hill spoke, and the ladies provided supper to give all the opportunity of meeting Mr. Hill, who has started a three months' ministry with the church. On May 7 and 14 Mr. Hill gave good addresses. Mrs. Wescombe sang a solo on 14th. On May 21 Mr. Hill again spoke. Prayers were offered for Mrs. Wescombe, who is again in hospital; she had an operation on May 19.

**Invermay.**—Interest is maintained in weekly meetings, attendances averaging 40. H. A. Stevens and H. M. Alderton were recently added to diaconate. Annual business meeting showed desire to evangelise. All auxiliaries are working well. Local brethren are preaching, with assistance of those from sister churches—T. Orr, F. Daniels, Ern. Stevens, S. H. Wilson. On May 9 T. Hagger conducted gospel service. At conclusion an hour of fellowship in song was enjoyed by the congregation, many of whom were conference delegates. On May 16 F. T. Morgan preached his farewell gospel address. Brethren gathered at conclusion of service to bid farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Morgan. H. V. Clements spoke on behalf of church, and presented Mr. Morgan with a packet of notes. A Mutual Improvement Class for young people has been formed under leadership of Ralph Comer and Harold Stevens, with good attendances.

## Queensland

**Ma Ma Creek.**—Mother's Day meeting was well attended. Endeavorers sent out 95 invitation cards to mothers. Rain prevented beginning weekly gospel services on evening of May 14. 56 broke bread on morning of May 21. Weekly gospel service commenced with 17 present. Previously monthly gospel services were held with attendance of between 40 and 50. At prayer meeting in home of J. Kuss at Ropely, seven miles from chapel, on evening of May 18, 19 were present, 11 of whom were non-members.

**Maryborough.**—There were good attendances on May 7, and several strangers were present. Suitable addresses were given for Mother's Day. There were fair attendances on May 14 and 21. Morning service on 21st was broadcast. Several members during recent weeks have been absent through illness. A Good Companions' Club has been started with 12 members, and much interest is displayed. A service with a good spirit of fellowship was held at Urraween on May 21. Mr. Bauernfiend, of Urraween, has had all his cane crop destroyed by fire. He is taking his loss in a true Christian spirit.

## Victoria

**Melbourne (Swanston-st.)**—On May 28, successful meetings marked the close of Chaplain General Allen Brooke's ministry here. C. B. Nance-Kivell will renew his labors with the church on June 4.

**Ballarat (York-st.)**—On May 21 fellowship was enjoyed with Mr. Funston, of Essendon, who gave inspiring addresses at both morning and evening meetings. Ladies' choir rendered a special hymn. Attendance at evening meetings has improved.

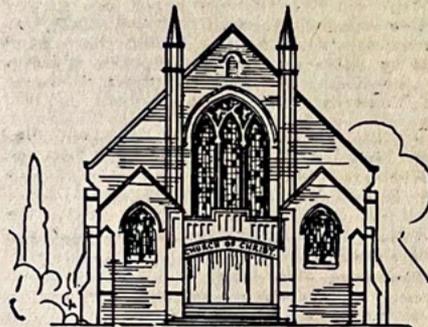
**Burnley.**—People's evangelistic service was held on May 7, Mr. Clay being speaker. Sister Lillian gave morning message on Mother's Day, and Ladies' Guild took evening service; Mr. Crisp exhorted. Badminton has commenced, young people showing enthusiasm. Good Companions enjoyed a hike in Studley Park on May 20. Mr. Boxhall, from North Richmond, preached at morning service on May 28.

**Dandenong.**—Mr. Marshall continues to deliver fine addresses. On May 25 a delegation of the church paid a visit to the mission at Oakleigh. On May 27 a children's frolic was held, proceeds to help Sunday schools' contribution to Temple Day offering.

**West Preston.**—Two who had confessed Christ and been baptised were received into fellowship on May 28, when Mr. Leader, from Baptist church, was speaker. At night Mr. Withers preached. Splendid visitation work is maintained, and Mr. Withers' addresses are appreciated. Church and auxiliaries are in splendid working order.

**East Malvern.**—Visiting speakers during April-May were C. G. S. Daff, A. Wilson, J. Holloway, J. G. Brown, L. A. Johnston and L. G. Crisp. The fellowship topic on May 3 was led by C. G. Taylor, and Miss Iris Wilson sang. Mrs. K. Morris interested Sunshine Circle on May 9 with her talk. Offering for Young People's Department was £5.

**Essendon.**—On morning of May 21, A. G. E. Smith spoke to church in place of W. E. Jackel, who was not well. Several members of Services were present. On May 28, young people's training class met under guidance of Mr. Jackel and afterwards had tea. At a well-



The Chapel at Essendon.

attended gospel meeting Mr. Jackel gave a resume of talks given with aid of a large chart. Fellowship with Mrs. Crabtree, of Launceston church, was enjoyed during the day. On May 20 a party journeyed to North Williamstown for district conference. The fellowship held a meeting at home of G. Dunn on May 27. Betty Watson is in hospital recovering from operation.

**Stawell.**—Mr. Randall and Mr. Quayle have given helpful services throughout past few weeks. C.E. members are having special meetings with many attending. Mrs. Jackson is ill, and Mrs. Tromph is taking her place at organ. Mother's Day addresses were given by Mr. Quayle on May 14. Prayer meetings in private homes are well attended.

**Yarrowonga.**—An Intermediate C.E. Society has commenced under capable leadership of Mr. Sellans. Junior Fellowship continues to help juniors after school on Wednesdays, under Mr. Pittman's leadership. A presentation was made at monthly social, to John Houghton, R.A.A.F., who has completed his training. Both H. Walker, A.I.F., and his son Eric, R.A.A.F., have been home on leave. Ladies' Guild paid £30 off debt on the manse.

**Mitcham.**—A well-attended Bible school picnic was held at Hampton. The first harvest thanksgiving service held at Mitcham was very successful; proceeds, £4/12/-, were donated to a bush fire victim family with Ringwood's effort. A young lad confessed Christ, was baptised, and received into fellowship. The church has lost by removal Mrs. Dehn and Gavin to Dromana, Mr. and Mrs. D. Read and family to South Melbourne, and Miss I. Mackay to Kyneton. On Mother's Day a special service at Bible school was held, Mr. Burns speaking. Mr. Wooster (sen.), Mr. McClure and Mrs. Witford have made recovery from illness.

**Bentleigh.**—Services of speakers during past weeks (C. Gadge, sen., W. Smith, R. Gerrard, J. Holloway, R. Hillier, Mr. Mott, N. Arnott, J. Anderson) have been helpful and appreciated. Attendances have improved.

**Carlton (Lygon-st.)**—Attendances were maintained over past two Sundays. On May 28 C. G. Taylor spoke in morning, and at night K. W. Barton gave the message. Visitors included Mr. and Mrs. Barton, of Tasmania, parents of the assistant preacher.

**Castlemaine.**—The church united in gospel service with Baptists on May 14, the occasion being a visit of president of Baptist Union. Morning services on May 21 and 28 were addressed by G. R. Clark, of Black Rock, who has been spending a holiday in the district. C. E. Curtis is conducting Sunday school examination classes.

**Emerald.**—Services on May 21 were again taken by T. H. Scambler, whose messages were appreciated by splendid congregations. Mr. and Mrs. Scambler have spent college vacation in the district, and their fellowship proved an inspiration. Painting of interior of chapel is now almost completed. A literature department for distribution of literature was initiated, on May 21 when some 20 booklets were sold.

**Hartwell.**—Splendid attendances continue, and excellent messages are given by Mr. Robinson. On May 16, Y.P.S.C.E. conducted service at Christian Guest Home. May 18, thanksgiving service for returned Service men and social held to honor W.O. Reg. Watt (returned R.A.A.F.) and Norma Body on eve of their marriage. A clock and Bible were presented. 2nd Degree Good Companions' Club has commenced under leadership of Mrs. Morris. Church members have endorsed purchase of an electric Æolian organ.

**Boort.**—Anniversary services were conducted on May 21, Don Streader conducting. All services were well attended. A concert was held on May 24, when a good programme was given by scholars and church members. Free-will offerings amounted to £5. Valma Hazlett and Mrs. Walters have been welcomed at services. Mrs. H. Lacy is in hospital and making satisfactory progress. Fred. Lacy is to come to Boort to live, having got his release from manpower. To Mrs. Lacy and himself a hearty welcome is extended.

**Coburg.**—Bible school anniversary services were marked by splendid congregations. The large choir, assisted by an orchestra, led by A. E. Barber, sang well. On afternoon of May 14, T. Fitzgerald gave a splendid message. Mr. Wakefield spoke at night. The chapel was filled on afternoon of May 21, when 70 cradle roll cards and 90 kindergarten prizes were presented parents and children. At night Les Brooker gave a splendid talk. H. Hammon, after several years as superintendent of school, has resigned, and R. Wright has been appointed in his place.

**Wangaratta.**—On May 14, J.C.E. delivered flowers and Mother's Day greetings to hospitals. Services in honor of mother were held. Mr. Lloyd spoke, and ladies' choir under his leading rendered two pieces. This was the choir's first appearance. On May 15, J.C.E. and Y.P.C.E. invited mothers of church to an evening. Miss Florence Green, junior superintendent, gave the address. Miss M. Pressley was in the chair. Marlene Campbell and Gladys Ashmead, two juniors, each gave a recitation, composed for occasion by Miss Green. Eileen Ashmead rendered a musical item, and A. R. Lloyd sang a solo. Supper was served to mothers. On May 17 annual business meeting of church was held. All officers were re-elected. Reports of auxiliaries were favorable. Supper was served by the diaconate. On May 21 a united service was held at 7 p.m. in Baptist church. A good number from both congregations attended. Mr. Tudball-Smith presided, and A. R. Lloyd gave an earnest address. After service the Lord's Supper was observed.

**Northcote.**—Sixty attended a successful social arranged by I.C.E. on May 23. S. R. Baker was speaker at evening service on May 28. Attendances at communion during May averaged 180, and at evening service 108. Offerings for month totalled £102/12/5, including £29/4/4 for Youth Department, £10/13/3 in duplex, and £7/7/3 for C.F.A. The church has loaned £205 to Properties' Corporation free of interest in view of its policy to reduce rate of interest on money borrowed by other churches. K.S.P. won State Chapter swimming competition. A youth council has been formed.

**Ringwood.**—L. Thomas, Alan Weiland and Trevor Williams have been home on leave. The latter was married to Joyce Sanders on Apr. 1. A successful S.S. picnic was held at Sandringham. Harvest thanksgiving proceeds (£3/8/-) were given to a bush-fire victim family. D. Russel and A. H. Pratt were bereaved of their last brothers, Sister Dellar of a brother-in-law. The church feels the loss of Mr. and Mrs. F. Burden by transfer to Croydon. The sudden home-call of Mrs. A. G. Burden (sen.) came as a shock, and will be a severe loss to the church. Visiting speakers were C. and F. Gadge, W. Gale, R. Sandells, G. Murray, L. Jones, M. Williams, A. Thomas, Henry Watson. A kindergarten picnic was held on Apr. 22.

**Swan Hill.**—Services are fairly well attended. Young People's Department offering to date is £3/16/6. Youth services were held on May 7, and on Mother's Day I.C.E. presented posies to patients and nurses of District Hospital. At quarterly social farewell was said to Mr. and Mrs. L. R. G. Smith, who return to Ballarat. Six volumes were presented from church, and a book to Mrs. Smith from Women's Mission Band was presented by Mrs. Walmsley. Presentations were made by Brian Hampson on behalf of Bible school, and on behalf of State school Mothers' Club by representatives who were present. Mrs. Allan, a faithful member of long standing, has passed to be with her Lord. The church extends sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Carroll and other relatives.

### Some Books

#### FOR THE PRESENT TIMES.

**Fading Light**—The tragedy of Spiritual Decline in Germany, by Canon T. C. Hammond, 4/-.

**Evidence**—An examination of the foundations of our civilisation, by R. H. Clayton, M.A., 2/6.

**There is But One**—Addresses on the Bible, by Profs. Blair, Lamont, Rendle-Short and Lloyd-Jones, 1/9.

**Heresies Exposed**, compiled by Wm. C. Irvine, 4/3.

**Modernism**—Is it from Heaven or of Men? by Russell Elliott, 1/4. (Postage extra.)

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### DEATH

**ALLEN.**—On May 17, at Swan Hill, Mary, relict of the late James Allen, loving mother of Ruth (Mrs. C. Carroll) and Gladys (Mrs. G. Wooster), fond grandma of John Carroll, Allen, Roy and Lois Wooster.

### BEREAVEMENT NOTICE

**HOBBS** (nee Barnes).—Mrs. Piper, Mr. and Mrs. Barnes desire to thank the friends and members of Brighton church, North Fitzroy, Moreland and Lygon-st. for their kind expressions of sympathy, and beautiful floral tokens, in their sad loss of Mrs. Olive Hobbs; especially thanking Mr. W. Graham and Mr. W. T. Atkin.

### IN MEMORIAM

**WENTWORTH.**—Sacred to the memory and loving thoughts of my dear husband and father, Walter R., who fell asleep suddenly June 1, 1943. Ever remembered.

—Inserted by his loving wife and daughters, Florence, Stella (Mrs. Trezise) and Alma (Mrs. Mathieson).

### WANTED

The church at Balwyn would like to purchase a pair of baptismal trousers, tunic, etc., to replace those lost in the fire. Any church having such garments to spare are asked to communicate with L. P. Warmbrunn, 10 Neath-st., Chatham, E.10. WF7509.

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### COMING EVENTS

**JUNE 12.**—Eastern Districts Women's Conference annual meeting will be held at Croydon church of Christ, 2 p.m. Leader of devotions, Mrs. E. L. Williams; speaker, Mrs. Ker-shaw; and items.

**JUNE 12** (King's Birthday).—Second Advent Convention, Collingwood church of Christ. 3 p.m., J. E. Thomas, "Will there Ever be a Warless World?" Dr. E. L. Watson, "The Necessity for and the Glory in the Coming of the King." 7.30 p.m., W. L. Wright, "The Redemption of the Purchased Possession," and W. Jackel, "Why the Bridegroom Still Tarries."

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**Overseas Missions Day, July 2.**

June 4—The Faith of Hudson Taylor.

Speaker—Walter L. Searle, C.I.M.

June 11—The Boxer Rising.

### BENTLEIGH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY,

JUNE 4.

11 a.m., T. R. Morris.

7 p.m., L. Hollins, M.L.A.

Hospitality provided.

### QUEENSBERRY STREET CHINESE CHURCH.

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JUNE 4, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Tuesday (June 6), 7.45, Public Meeting.

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Musical items. Supper provided.

All former helpers and friends please accept this as an official invitation.

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#### PLEASANT SUNDAY AFTERNOON,

JUNE 4, 3 o'clock.

Speaker, Mr. W. O. Burt  
(Member Housing Commission of Victoria).

Subject, "The Christian Approach to the Housing Problem."

Musical Programme.

Soloist, Miss Betty Francis.

### THORNBURY CHURCH OF CHRIST.

#### 23RD CHURCH ANNIVERSARY,

JUNE 4.

11 a.m., E. L. Williams. 7 p.m., H. Swain.

Past members and friends invited.

### SOUTH MELBOURNE CHURCH OF CHRIST.

#### ANNIVERSARY HOME-COMING DAY,

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NEXT MEETING: MON., JUNE 5,

SWANSTON-ST. LECTURE HALL.

Note time of commencement: 2.30 p.m.

Speaker—Rex Mathias (Religious Instruction Director).

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### The Australian Christian

May 31, 1944

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The Main Street, Baramati.

FOR many years we have thought that we should try to make a greater contribution to the life of Baramati town. The coming of Mr. Bairagi into our midst has given free rein to our imagination regarding the possibility of such a work. He is interested in the educational side specially. We are fortunate in that a piece of government land is about to be sold in small lots. We have requested a block, and have been offered a piece about 80 ft. by 100 ft., out of this area, right in the town. We have accepted the offer. This will be large enough for us to erect a good building. After the war, we plan for a two-storied building, lower floor to consist of library, reading rooms, class rooms, welfare centre, caretaker's rooms, etc., and the upper floor a large lecture room. While we are planning for many social and educational activities, we are not unmindful of the chief purpose that brought us here, that of preaching the gospel. Our plan will be to have a large meeting on Sunday evenings at least, when the gospel will be presented in an attractive way. We remember that the people have spiritual needs which we must satisfy. Not only so, but we would give opportunity for their expression in bhajan and kirtan singing during the week.

We therefore ask all to help us in this project. We hope to get possession of the site soon, and will then want to erect some temporary buildings of single brick, etc., which can easily be removed. These materials will be useful later when we are ultimately able to put up a solid permanent stone structure. Partition walls are usually built of brick. We want to begin some of the work as soon as possible. There is a friendly attitude in the town at present, and it would be well to cultivate it and use it for the glory of God and the salvation of men. Last week I met a high caste Hindu man I have known for over 25 years, and who of late years has been mixed up with Congress political activities. He was detained in prison for one year recently on suspicion and never tried. He evidently had had time to think of all that had happened. He said, "Sahib, if I have ever said or done anything against you, please forgive me." I replied that I could not remember any special matter, but I was quite prepared to forgive and forget his anti-Christian activities of the past.

Last Sunday there came to church a Hindu who used to speak against the Christian religion. Perhaps such men as these are having their eyes opened, and we ask you to pray for them. In our Fellowship Centre we could meet all such in a friendly atmosphere. We have dreams of the expansion of the kingdom of India. Will you be a partner in helping these dreams to become concrete and take form?—H. R. Coventry.

# Adventure in Fellowship

## LETTER TO INDIAN BOYS AT FRONT

Dear Friends,—

IT is several months since we sent out our last letter to you all. Since then we have had Christmas holidays. Several of our boys have been able to be with us for a time, and it was refreshing to hear them tell of their experiences, north, south, east and west. We hope that before long others, too, will have leave and spend some time here with us. You are all constantly remembered in our prayers. Several are sending deposits regularly to the co-operative society. We want you to prepare for the time when peace comes again.

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.

We have already told you the purposes of these investments. You will want to do more study to prepare yourself for your life's work, or to settle down in some place.

You will be interested to know that there have been many baptisms of recent months at Baramati. From August to December there have been over twenty, including twelve Takari men and women and some boarding boys and others. Mr. and Mrs. C. Thomas have now returned from furlough, and are now in charge of the boys' home in place of Miss Vawser who has gone on furlough. We have also been cheered by the coming of Mr. and Mrs. B. Coventry as new missionaries. They are busy learning Marathi.

On January 12 we observed the Christian Home festival at 6 p.m. About sixty families gathered in the church, and after each name was called, the whole family stood and either recited a verse of scripture or sang a hymn. They then received a lighted lamp. When all had lamps in their hands, they stood and said together, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." They then went home carrying their lamps and singing, "We will walk in the light." It was a very happy function.

On February 2 Mr. Tersingrao Papani was ordained and set aside as pastor of the Baramati church. Please pray for him and the church as they begin their new relationship.

Please remember the work of the church and the conference at Patas where Mr. B. Hiwale is working. Some of you are now on active service and seeing wonderful sights which some of us have never seen. We are praying for you. This week we begin our five weeks of study of the book of Acts, chapters 13-28, in preparation for the Week of Witness, to be held this year from March 19-26.

When the war is over, we hope and pray that some of you will take training and become ministers of the gospel or pastors of churches. May God bless and keep you all in his loving care. If you want to do some study in spare time, write and tell me, and I will send you some study books in Marathi.

Please pray for us as we, too, pray for you.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

H. R. Coventry, missionary.  
T. V. Papani, pastor.

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## Open Forum

### FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS

(Correspondents are reminded that letters should not be more than 300 words in length, that names and not pseudonyms should be used, and that once a writer has had his say on a particular topic he should leave the way open for somebody else. We do not desire unsatisfactory crossfiring. The insertion of a letter does not imply editorial approval of its contents.—ED.)

#### GROUP MOVEMENTS

UNDER the heading of "Seditious Activities" the author of "Should We Surrender Colonies?" (S. Fowler Wright) writes on page 105: "Unrest among the German population, attempts to establish a Hitler Youth movement and illegal recruiting activities have still been met with more patience than they deserve. An expulsion of persistently disloyal elements would have been a wiser and salutary procedure." The above concerns South Africa. I find a movement here which is a branch of the World's Student Christian Fellowship. A member of this movement told me that it would, through its group movements, be sending representatives of the movement to India to see that men such as Gandhiji and Jawarilal Nehru would be liberated and given freedom of action.

My answer to this is that two millions of Indian and Anglo-Indian troops are fighting to keep out Japanese and Hitlerites from India. Fifty years in India has been enough for me to return and end my days there, because I have been there and seen every Indian State governing the two-thirds population it had responsibility for, and I have seen both sides of the lantern.

Finally I want to see Australian men and women go into places where missions have withdrawn their workers, as well as places now given in to Indian Christians. But, above all, slowly and wisely.—H. H. Strutton.

#### CHRISTIAN UNION

ARTICLES on Christian union have been appearing so frequently in the "Christian" that it would indeed surprise me if an issue were to appear without any reference to it. Much talk, but little is ever done. It is time these articles ceased. The impression I have gained from it all is that like the author of a best-seller, the churches of Christ have snatched up this new angle, as one would think it by the controversy, and are merely using it as a means of passing time. If the churches of Christ are so scriptural as they make out, let them adhere to the Master's words and preach nothing but the gospel.

Christ in his reply to the disciples who reported the incident of another preaching and casting out devils in his name said, "He that is not against us is for us." Does the scripture say, "Go ye into all the world and preach unity"? Christ was evidently not concerned about unity.

If unity means relinquishing foundation truths, as appears to be the case, then it is better left alone. Never mind what the other chap is doing. Let us do that which is committed unto us and preach the gospel. Unity themes to-day are evidently sermons of last-minute preparation—they achieve nothing. Kellens preached unity twenty-five years ago; it is preached to-day, and still will be fifty years hence.

I was privileged to hear a missionary recently who has just returned from Manchukuo. "Internment," she said, "was an experience in itself. Under those conditions we missionaries of all denominations, yes, even Roman Catholic priests and nuns, had all things common in spite of the fact that we held individual services." The point here is "if internment cannot bring about unity" and only "catastrophe can bring about Christian communism,"

what hope have we as a Christian people of accomplishing anything in this direction?

Branching off into such doctrines has meant giving up the old ways which have been proved and tried. This has been a failing of many a church, for are we not exhorted to "keep to the old ways"? . . . this means preach repentance, preach types, preach the gift of the Holy Spirit, preach the second advent . . . and above all preach Christ, crucified—not Christian union, not social evils such as prohibition, for it is love and love alone, that can only overcome such barriers. I say it again, the preacher's task is to preach Christ and him only.—A. C. Caldicott, Mile End, S.A.

## Obituary

### Mrs. L. Johnsen

ON Wednesday, May 3, Mrs. Johnsen, of Cottesloe, W.A., received the home-call. She had just passed her 81st birthday. Mrs. Johnsen has been a faithful worker in the church for many years, and very active in the home all her life. For the last few years, since her daughter-in-law's death, she has been "mother" to her son's family. She had carried out the duties of the home on the last day of her earthly life when she collapsed, was taken to hospital, and passed away in her sleep during the night. We commend to our heavenly Father's care her loved ones, particularly Mr. J. Johnsen and his family. Only a few weeks before Mr. Johnsen received his discharge from the Army, and is able to be home with his family.—H.E.R.S.

### J. W. Ward

THE death of J. W. Ward, an officer of Kadina church, S.A., occurred suddenly at his home on the morning of May 5. Although in indifferent health for several years, he seemed in his usual good spirits on the eve of his death, and had attended the midweek prayer meeting on the Wednesday night. Mr. Ward came from England at the age of eight. For many years he conducted a bakery in Kadina, and later was a successful agent for an insurance company. Our brother was a member of the Kadina church for about 42 years, having become a member by faith and baptism in the third year of its history. He had reached the age of seventy, and finished his course with the sure and certain hope of eternal reward. Mr. Ward had a bright and cheerful disposition, and his smile often hid a suffering body. He was a staunch Protestant. The Kadina preacher conducted services in the home and at the graveside. His body was laid to rest in West Terrace cemetery, Adelaide. Mr. Ward has left a wife, an active worker in the church for many years, two daughters and two sons to mourn their loss, but not without hope. We commend them to the God of all love and comfort.—M.T.L.

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## How to Approach Life

(John 8: 23, 24)

THE eighth chapter of John impresses us  
with the fact that there are two distinct  
ways of approaching the events and situations  
of life—the high way and the low way!—the  
right way and the wrong way!—God's way and  
our own wretchedly human way!—the way  
whereby one arrives and the way of remorse  
and futility!

Notice how these two approaches are con-  
trasted. First when the prayer habit of  
Jesus is set alongside the casual habit of  
men. Again, when Jesus and the Pharisees  
have to do with a sinful woman. Still fur-  
ther in the emphatic statement of Jesus: "Ye  
are from beneath; I am from above."

Observe how Jesus emphasises at least three  
features of the Christian approach. (1) It is  
the enlightened approach: "I am the light of  
the world; he that followeth me shall not walk  
in darkness, but shall have the light of life."  
(2) It is the liberated approach: "If ye con-  
tinue in my words, then are ye my disciples  
indeed, and ye shall know the truth and the  
truth shall make you free." (3) It is the  
enlivened approach: "If a man keep my say-  
ing, he shall never see death. . . . If a  
man keep my saying, he shall never taste of  
death."—G. J. Andrews.

### THOUGHT

*The trouble with the man who never  
makes a mistake is that he doesn't  
know a mistake when he makes one.*

—Elbert Hubbard.

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## The Australian Christian

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May 31, 1944

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