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The FOREIGN MISSION NUMBER of Australian... Christian

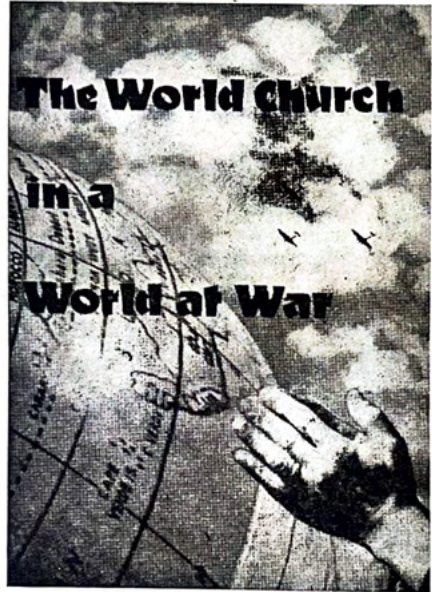
ANNUAL OVERSEAS OFFERING

SUPPORT

CHINA

THE

PRAY
FOR
IT



PAY
FOR
IT

INDIA

WORK IN

NEW HEBRIDES

SUNDAY, JULY 2nd, 1944

FEDERAL OBJECTIVE:

£6500



LET OUR
INFLUENCE BE FELT
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

A.C. GLOVER

Strange Days in India



THESE surely are strange days in India—days of unbelievably, amazingly high prices of the cheapest foods. Days when one tells some poor, pale skeleton, crawling to the back door for dysentery medicine, "Here it is; but be careful what you eat! No pulse, or corn bread, or vegetables: just a little rice, and drink the water it is cooked in, too." One is met by a blank stare: "Rice? We haven't seen rice for months! Where would I get rice?" The obvious answer is to give some from our own small store—which is done.

Strange days—when oil is so closely rationed and difficult to get, that our children's Christmas gift, an oil-burning refrigerator, has not been in use all this grilling summer long, and we watch our little oil lanterns with hawk's eyes, turning them down or out as soon as possible.

Strange days—when one applies desperately to this and that Government agency for "Government" quinine for charitable dispensary work; when, though we are ready to pay the devastatingly high price (for India's sake and by self-denial along other lines), and promise to see it go into the sufferer's mouth (and not into his hand, to be taken away and not used because it is bitter), and to use it sparingly—still we often cannot get one grain.

Strange days—when, if one sends for a new earthen water-pot (new ones permit of faster evaporation, hence cooling the water better) costing from five to eight cents, we receive the change from Rs. 1 note (35 cents) in very dirty, oily post-cards—for India is hoarding her small change and her metals. This fact makes house-keeping anything but a pleasure, as many small shop-keepers will only accept the exact money. Imagine buying a small tin of soup at home and trying to pay with a dollar bill; the shop refuses to take anything but change, and the alternative is to spend the entire dollar (which you cannot afford) and which leaves you in exactly the same "fix" for the next shop!

Strange days—when this terrible war has so bound up folk of all faiths into one gasping prayer: "How long, Lord!" One common grief, one question: "What next?" so that no one needs any introduction at all in speaking of the things of God. One can take advantage of anything to "preach a sermon."

For instance, on a recent journey, there sat beside me a very pretty, stylish, well-educated, "civilized" young Hindu wife. She had just been married, and having fulfilled all the proper ceremonial rites and customs, was being taken by her brother to her new home. Having garbed herself beautifully in a silken sari, and with her hands full of powder, lipstick and other toilet accessories (young India—brought up on cinemas!), she suddenly turned to me on her way to the bathroom and said hesitatingly; "Pardon me, but could you loan me your tooth-paste?" I don't know which of us was more embarrassed. I had

thought I was experienced, but in forty-one years I had never received a request like that. Taken aback, I stammered: "Why, I'm sorry, but I haven't any!"—I could fairly read the uncomplimentary thoughts in her mind, so I hastened to add: "You see, a woman of my age has a different sort of teeth—and uses a different sort of cleanser, too!"

That broke the ice, and we both laughed. After she returned to her seat, all "made up," we talked of the real things for a long time. She had been educated in a mission school at Lahore and possessed a Bible, but she had got out of the habit of reading it. However, she made some commitments that day, and to one higher than I, let us hope.

Pray for the many of "Young India" who are "Westernised," and often unreachable by the ordinary ways of evangelism. If "store teeth" and toothpaste could open a door that day to this one, then he has ways of reaching the others too.

—M. McKelvey in "World Dominion."

Overseas Mission Offering
Sunday, JULY 2nd, 1944



Sacred Bull Relaxes.

Though India is rapidly changing in some directions, the old order regarding many of her religious practices remains. In the holy city of Benares—most sacred city of the Hindus—sacred bulls are to be seen lying down in the main streets, often obstructing modern motor traffic. Here is seen a sacred bull in India's capital city, Delhi. These animals are unmolested, and even allowed to steal from shops. Millions of unproductive cattle are fed in India, whilst millions of her people are under-nourished and ill-clad.

The Australian Christian

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 1944

This is Our Day of Opportunity

THERE are about two thousand millions of human beings struggling to live on this spinning globe we call the Earth. Apart from minor racial differences and comparatively slight variations in mental and physical abilities, there is such a basic likeness that Paul could tell the Athenians that God had made all men of one blood (Acts 17: 26). There is one other thing all men have in common; they all do actions which are sinful. Again Paul sums up this by saying, "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3: 23). Proof of sin in man is to be seen in the cruelty of man toward man. Wars, famine, disease and squalor tell a vivid story of man's inhumanity to man.

Two things are needed if men are to be rescued from the vile pit they have dug for themselves by evil deeds: (1) Knowledge of the way out of the pit of sin; (2) The power to effect an escape. It is one thing to know how to do something and another to be able to do it.

REINHOLD NIEBUHR, in "The Nature and Destiny of Man," points out how man adds sin to sin by imagining, in his human pride, he can find a way out of trouble by applying schemes and machines, manufactured by human intellect, to the problems of life. As more and more of the mysteries of nature have been brought under control, there has been a growth in man's pride and a growing belief he can manage to solve all the problems of life, and thus he thinks he can, some day, turn earth into a heaven by his own deeds. Men throughout the world tend to think that the light of human reason will lead them out of trouble. As Professor Niebuhr has shown, and many others are now beginning to realise, with every advance of science, not only are advantages brought to man, but also the possibilities of great disasters. So to-day we find that the aeroplane which does such good service has become an instrument of terror in war. It is clear that the fruits of science can be used for good or ill.

Man's greatest problem in the affairs of this life is, not how to gain knowledge whereby he may conquer nature, but how he may avoid allowing scientific knowledge becoming a

perfect instrument of destruction when under the control of evil desires in man.

Men need a power, not only to prevent human knowledge being used for evil ends, but to ensure that science may be used for the good of all. The great sin of man is that he thinks the "wisdom of this world" will secure for him this power. The "wisdom of God" seems to him to be foolishness.

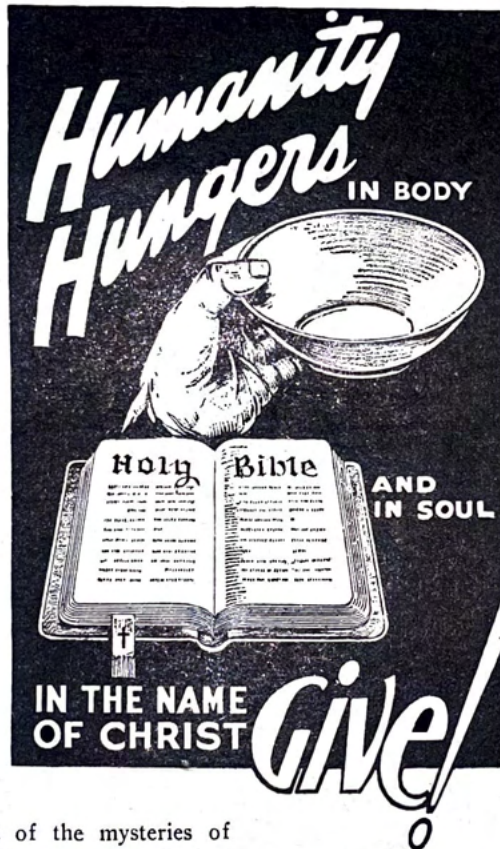
IN the midst of great trouble, however, man sees the evil results caused by the works of his own creation, and is more inclined to give up his foolishness and to listen to the revealed wisdom of God. Are we not living in such an opportune time? The restlessness of all nations tells the story of human dissatisfaction. What country is free from the spirit of unrest? All Asia is awake to the need of applying new principles to life. What about Europe? People there will be turning from an old order, and will be seeking a new way of life for the future. The people of Africa, America and Pacific islands are coming to the dawn of a new day. All are reaching out for something better than they have had in the past.

THE world-war is proof of the deep discontent with the way of life that has allowed science serve the selfish motives of evil men. Men are

beginning to realise that the "wisdom of man" has failed to meet the needs of man. Man has reached, in these days, an extremity of despair. So now is the day of God's opportunity.

The gospel provides knowledge of the way of life for all men in every part of the world, and also points to One who will give men the Power to live that life.

Those who have been called to follow Christ have been given the task of spreading good news concerning this Way and this Power that saves. "Go," said Jesus, "and make disciples of all nations." Only when this duty is completed successfully can we withhold our efforts and gifts from a God-given task. Time and money given now for this missionary task will, very likely, count for more at this hour than that given in a period not so pregnant with opportunities of bringing truth to men and women living in darkness in lands beyond the sea.



Forward With Christ

Messages from State Conference Presidents

CHRISTIANITY OR CHAOS?

E. Lyall Williams, M.A., President, Victorian Conference

"GUNS or butter?" is one of the modern phrases which confront us with the grim realities of the hour. Would that our imagination could be caught with these alternatives—"Christianity or chaos?"

Greed, nationalistic pride, suspicion and misunderstanding are the roots of war, and there will be no permanent peace until these things are overcome. As a venture in goodwill, friendship, sympathy, understanding, education, enlightenment and redemption, Christianity is the only hope. Its propagation is an essential price of peace. We pour millions of pounds into war and other things. What do we put into missions? How much do we pay for peace? Christ died on the cross that we might have Christianity. What price do we pay that the world may know him?

BEING PREPARED

A. Anderson, President, South Australian Conference

MANY "prophets" tell us what will happen in the post-war world. Inevitable changes will take place, and plans must be made now to meet the changing and changed times that will be. Pertinent questions for post-war period would be:—

Will India gain independence?

Who will have mandates over the Pacific Islands, and in particular the New Hebrides?

Will the Chinese Government continue to be Christian in outlook?

These questions cannot be fully answered, but we can anticipate them by preparing in advance. Help the F.M. Board and missionaries who are seeking to plan ahead.

FOR BLESSINGS RECEIVED

L. E. Peacock, President W.A. Conference

AS the time of the year approaches when special attention is given to our overseas work, we as Christians need to face up to our obligations, and view them in the light of our blessings. We have very much for which to thank God. We have always thanked him for our personal salvation through Christ, and now we must thank him for our salvation as a nation. Surely we have been saved ourselves, not because of our own worth, but because we can be a blessing to the nations of the world of the future. We have a world-wide message. We are in the world to help save the world. Let our motto be, "The world for Christ."

OUR OPPORTUNITY

E. A. Stevens, President Tasmanian Conference

THE gospel is the most wonderful and profound truth given into mankind. When we think of the stupendous benefits, promises and glories of the gospel, how can we sit complacently by without helping to spread the glorious message as commanded in Mark 16: 15? When we realise what other people of the world have suffered, and are still suffering,

and their want and the need of a Saviour, how can we withhold the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ from them by not giving the wherewithal to participate with the brethren who have given up all, that they may proclaim the glorious gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ? So, brethren, pray earnestly, and give liberally to the annual offering on July 2.



A Tibetan Girl Spinning Thread.

Tibet is still practically a closed land for the gospel. After the conclusion of hostilities there are likely to be great changes, for with the Burma Road to the south and the new India-China road to the north, Tibet cannot remain in isolation. Christ is on the borders—soon he will enter an open door.

REAL AND VITAL

C. F. Adermann, President, Queensland Conference

THE challenge of overseas mission work is very real and very vital in present circumstances. The difficulty of imparting Christian teaching to those who have superstitious beliefs, coupled with fear, has been proven by the comparatively slow progress made, to what should be the case when the all-abounding love of Christ is the alternative. In every land a new order of things is looked for. Man

in his wisdom, or otherwise, is offering, and will offer, what are mere palliatives, because in the trials of life these things cannot prevail.

Overseas mission work then becomes vital, and needs our sacrificial support, so that men and nations can be brought to the knowledge of the only order that will prove the test, the foundation of which is Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 3: 11). If we build upon this foundation our work shall be made manifest. We can assist in this great work of saving souls in other lands by giving liberally, giving sacrificially.

TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW

R. H. Wakeley, President, N.S.W. Conference

AN opportunity is given to us to do something for Christ in return for his kindness to us, for we do not know whether we shall have the same opportunity to serve him in the future. In James 4: 13-15 we are reminded that the future is not ours—it is still in the Lord's keeping. Miss Vawser told us that there is no doubt that when India has self-government missionary work is sure to be on a different basis. We may have to withdraw and let the native Christians carry on the work. Similarly our missionaries were withdrawn from China some years ago. There is a need to-day to extend our activities and thoroughly train native Christians, who will remain and carry on the work. Thus our past work will be conserved. Often the natives in the Islands have had to carry on without a missionary for some time, and their own leaders have shown the results of faithful service and training on the part of our missionaries. Let us give freely and gladly unto the Lord out of the abundance that he has given to us.

AN INVESTMENT

Mrs. D. Harlen, President Queensland Women's Conference

TO-DAY we are familiar with the phrases, "Back the attack" and "Lend to speed victory." To what better use can these words be used than in reference to overseas missions? Brave, consecrated men and women have gone out to fight the darkness of sin and heathenism. And just as much as our fighting forces need our prayers and backing, so do these soldiers of the cross. What an investment! We don't lend our money, but we give it to extend God's kingdom and so bring a victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Remember this investment on July 2.

UNITY WITH CHRIST

Mrs. J. C. Humphrys, President Western Australian Women's Conference.

AS the days draw near for the overseas mission offering, we are reminded of our obligations. So much has been put into the struggle of war, but we must exert ourselves more in proclaiming his glorious gospel and teaching the nations a new way of life. Only in that way will a lasting peace be upon all the nations. We pray earnestly that God will raise up consecrated men and women to work in his fields and that strength and sustenance will be their portion. We have enjoyed Mr. Anderson's ministry, and it has inspired us to greater interest in overseas missions.

Global Mindedness

Our Missionaries Speak

NEW HEBRIDES

SERVICE AT LOVUTALAU

Ron. W. Saunders

SOLOMON, the elder or "teacher," very graciously welcomed us. We rested in the men's house, renewing acquaintance. By-and-bye the second drum was beaten. The first drum long before our arrival told the villagers to prepare; this one told them to come to the "church house." Lastly, a small bell invited them in to worship. Soundlessly entered the men, not in the traditional lava lava, but in United States Army and Navy uniforms, spotlessly clean. In clean calico dresses, carrying or leading the ubiquitous picaninnies, came the



Boys Working Copra.

Picture shows how deftly the boys can husk the outer covering. What will be the future of such boys? Will the Atlantic Charter give them a better deal? Will they be given Christ? We can in part answer the last question.

women. The church building was solidly built with three trunks for the cornices and the supporting beams, plaited bamboo walls, deeply overlapping leaves of the black palm bound to bamboo poles with strips of bark. This cool, comfortable and compact building seated the sixty-nine worshippers. Only one very sick man stayed at home.

Reverently, with spontaneous emotion, the congregation sang, "Jesus, keep me near the cross." A short prayer beseeching the blessing of our Father upon this meeting and on all the divine services in the New Hebrides, and to the revelation of himself in the reading of the word of truth and the breaking of the bread and the message of the sermon. Gordon read Psalm 51 and Hosea, John 6: 27-40.

The majority of the adults followed the reading in their English versions. In order to preserve the flock from the false doctrine of the Sabbath Day Mission, I carefully explained that we remember the death and resurrection of our Lord on Sunday because we read, "On the first day of the week, when the disciples met together to break bread" (Acts 20: 7). Then very carefully over the words, "This is my blood of the new testament which was shed for many for the remission of sins." Simeon led the thanks for the bread and Lorni the thanks for the wine. Their very humble and deeply grateful prayers allow us to see the deep mature spirituality of these Christians. Now our highly respected and beloved Abel Barney led in prayer and delivered the sermon in Aoban. It was a long and powerful address. Fittingly we concluded this uplifting and exhortation by singing, "Take my life and let it be, consecrated, Lord, to thee." For the customary handshake, came first the men and boys, then the women and girls.

It was like harvest thanksgiving when they soon returned bringing gifts of woven baskets, pineapples, paw-paws, bananas, oranges, yams and lap-lap with pork and fowl. After kai-kal began the medicine. The halt and the lame and diseased were there—all anxious. How the picaninnies did yell, as one by one they were injected with sobita that cleans up rotting, festering sores like a seven-day miracle. Their fathers and mothers next. A few quinine were spared for the bad cases of malaria, salts for some, and the usual advice about what to eat. Alas, that so little can be done where there are so many needy and facilities so few. About seventy cases were treated in three hours.

The village lined up for the good-bye handshake. Smiling, friendly, happy Christians of a strong church. Happily we rowed back to Ndul-ndul, having been as busy as the little ants, or Ndul-nduls as we call them here.

"IN HIS NAME"

Mary L. Clipstone

ONE'S reception when amongst strangers often depends upon one's references or upon the name of the person we represent. Especially is this evident when a Christian goes amongst those of kindred minds. The name, "Christ's one" is the passport to gracious hospitality and happy fellowship. The name carries not only privileges, but responsibilities. It is very easy for the Christian to speak and think in general terms and forget that personal privileges and responsibilities go hand in hand. It behoves a messenger of Christ to be courageous, loyal, full of zeal for the cause of the one he serves.

Just now we are thinking of the task that is ours in extending the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ in countries where as yet he is not known. It is a great honor the Master has conferred upon us in permitting us to share with him in this great and glorious work. As we think of our Island work, our hearts are full of joy, for we see the way opening up for the extension of his kingdom there. Our dream of more workers is coming true, so making it possible to have permanent assistance for Pentecost. More workers will mean more schools for native teachers and preachers. We will urgently need fifty trained men in the next five years to take the "good news" to their own folk in their own tongue. In the not so distant future we can see our dispensary hospital, bringing with it relief

from physical disabilities and so opening closed doors to the gospel story. We can see our women folk, trampling their present shackles in the dust, and rising to take an honored place in the family circle.

All this, and much more too, because in the name of Christ, his church is prepared to pray, give and send. The strength of the forward drive depends upon the individual. Just how much am "I" prepared to give?

(Continued on page 282)



New Hebridean Mother and Children.

With the return of Sister Clipstone and the assistance of Mrs. Waterman, mothers and babies will be greatly helped.



Bible Students, Pentecost.

These boys have done a good work. Even with a brief training period on Aoba, they returned to Pentecost and helped many villages. Several people have been baptised, ten villages and approximately 400 people are asking for teachers. In the near future we hope to reply by not only sending teachers, but having resident missionary on Pentecost.

INDIA

"LIFT UP YOUR EYES, BEHOLD!"

Bruce V. Coventry

IT is fast hastening on to three months since we arrived here. In some ways we seem to have been here years, while from other viewpoints only a few days. In due course, our pundit arrived to help us out of the helpless position of being unable to converse with the people. Gradually we find we are assimilating some of the words of the language, so



Mr. and Mrs. B. V. Coventry.

Reinforcements sent 1943. These workers, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Colin Thomas, arrived at Christmas time. Such gifts are the finest Christmas boxes the brotherhood are privileged to give our overseas workers.

that with a few words and much gesticulation we can at times make ourselves understood: One or two incidents worth relating have come very much under our notice of recent days. Bands playing weird music accompanied by songsters seem to have had an exceptionally busy time. Recently, about 10 p.m., we went outside for a little blow, and immediately our attention was arrested by noises on both sides of us. For a time we hesitated in an endeavor to form mental pictures of the scenes in the distance. On the town side, the music and voices seemed unusually loud, leading us to the thought that some special day in the Hindu year was probably being observed, as there are so many of such days, several every month. Others we learned later had been of the same impression, but our pundit, who is a Hindu, informed us next day that it was only a wedding of a member of some rich or important family.

On the other side of us could be heard the dull, steady thud of threshing sticks pounding the grain out of jewarie heads. Most of these men had already completed a hard day's work and were now engaged on what we would consider as another hard day's work, all in one day. They had purchased some jewarie in an endeavor to assure their households of at least some grain throughout the next year, and must as speedily as possible extract the grain to save it from being stolen or eaten by birds and field rats; thus long into the night and commencing early in the morning, they toiled away. There is no such thing as harvester or binder around here, but instead every jewarie plant is pulled by hand, bundled and carted to a threshing floor, prepared somewhere in the field. This threshing floor is approximately 20 feet in diameter, having been prepared by soaking and ramming, then coating it with a mixture of animal manure and mud. When completed, the floor is exceptionally hard and proves very effective.

The grain heads are broken off the 4-7 feet jewarie plants and thrown on to the threshing floor to be trampled out by a bullock, walking slowly round and round, followed by a driver making his presence felt continuously, or beaten out by men using sticks about 8 feet long. The latter method is slower and more strenuous, but still just as effective. After the grain has been beaten out of the jewarie heads it has then to be winnowed. One man stands on a box about three feet high, and from head high slowly tips the grain on to the threshing floor, while another man continually hands metal dishes of grain up to him. Lack of wind sometimes holds this stage of the work up for a day or two. After this operation, the grain is bagged, quite as clean as anything that has passed through the mechanical devices of threshing and winnowing machines.

While harvest time means little sleep for the farmer and those deal-

ing with grain, for they must guard the crop and grain night and day, it also means disturbed sleep for any who live anywhere near a bullock cart track. The grain is often pulled, threshed, winnowed and carted by night, all of which operations are accompanied by (music) singing. The workers, many of whom are women, sing while they work because it enables them to work to a set pace, by night keeps them awake, is supposed to keep away any evil spirit, and assures protection from any potential robber. On more than one occasion we have been awakened in the early hours of the morning by the voluminous singing of a driver as he jogged along the track in his bullock cart about 20 yards from us. There is something fascinating about such singing, even though one is awakened from a really good sleep.

Disturbed from a deep sleep in this manner one night, I could not help but think of the victorious chorus in heaven, as one of these precious souls passes into fellowship with Christ and becomes heir to eternal salvation. It is grand to listen to some of our own Christians singing Christian hymns as they work away in the fields; the name of Christ seems to ring out triumphantly. Your prayers have helped in the leading of many to Christ. Continue to pray that many more in new areas and old may be led into this great fellowship.

TWO INDIAN CHRISTIANS

E. Vawser

SATWA

SATWA is almost blind, and at times he seems completely blind. He is a convert from among the Takari bhamptas, and of late years, because of falling eyesight, he minded goats. Now he is unable to even look after the goats, and his wife refuses to do anything for him. The mission came to the rescue, for otherwise he would have died of starvation. He has his food in the Boys' Home at Baramati, and sleeps in his own room in the Free Colony. He is now a very kind and friendly old man, entirely dependent on mission support. Not long ago his wife even sold his blanket and went away for an extended period. The boys are quite helpful and thoughtful for him, and he seems to appreciate more and more all that Christ has meant in his life.

SAKHARAM

THIS old weak man was absolutely deserted by all his relatives when the price of grain soared and food became so terribly difficult to procure. There was not enough to go round, so why bother about the sick and aged old man? A room has been given for his use, and he has his meals in the Boys' Home at Baramati. He suffers from a distressing trouble; he is almost a skeleton but quite active. Some months ago he desired baptism; but felt he would never survive immersion. Later he knew there was to be a baptismal ceremony, and just at the time of the service, he asked if he could follow his Master in this ordinance. Knowing he had been a Christian at heart for some time, he was baptised. It is quite a thrill to see the lads of the home sitting and talking to these old men of Christ. The longing of these unlearned men to know more of the Master is often satisfied by the children who delight to tell the stories of Jesus to an attentive audience.

MISSIONS TO LEPERS

SOME time ago Gandhiji stated: "I have visited many mission hospitals, and can say that a wonderful work has been done for lepers. In fact, missions have a monopoly of this work. Not that they mind others coming to share it with them, but the others simply don't come." In an interesting book on medical missions in India, Dr. Chesterman, referring to these unfortunates in need of love and service, wrote, "Just as the lepers' plight strangely moved our Lord, so has it ever challenged the spirit of Christ in his followers."



Satwa and Sakharam.

Threefold Ministry of Missions

Dr. G. H. Oldfield, Dhond, India

ON the mission field it is found that the threefold ministry which Jesus himself carried out while on earth is absolutely necessary. Preaching, teaching and healing. Men and women, qualified or apparently unqualified in these activities, have done great things

PLAYING ANCIENTS

R. C. Bolduan

WE met in a railway carriage. He was young, tall and dignified. His clothes, his red fez and his black beard were outward signs that he was a Mahomedan. And, he was proud of it! But conversation soon revealed that one of his main interests in life, apart from his religion, was the study of science. In addition to studying the subject in India, he had spent some three years in the universities of England, and had travelled on the Continent. He talked well, and proved to be a most interesting and pleasant travel companion.

The flow of conversation was interrupted when he saw that the sun was about to set. He brought forth a prayer-mat from his luggage and spread it on the floor of the carriage. Then, removing his shoes, he prostrated himself a number of times with his face towards the setting sun and solemnly murmured his prayers to Allah. Again within half an hour after sunset he went through the same procedure again.

He was very frank about it. These prayers were but evening prayers and closed the day's religious routine. His day commenced every morning with prayers half an hour before sunrise! Even some of his friends do not appreciate his rigid adherence to religion, but he considers them "modern," and in explanation of his adherence to religion, says, "I am simply playing ancients."

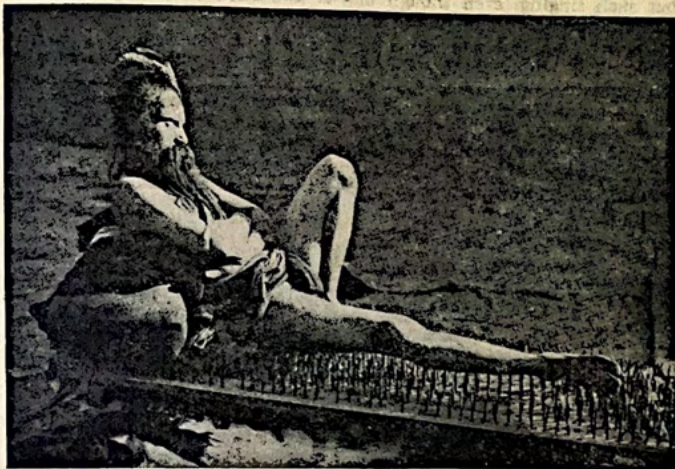
The meaning was plain. Although he lived in this modern world and was a product of this modern world so far as his education was concerned, his religious life was but the reproduction of the life of an early follower of the prophet. But for the modern clothes, the railway carriage and the undulating Deccan, I

might have been watching a patriarch in flowing robes, prostrating himself before his tent in the arid deserts of Arabia. The patriarch was actually in the railway carriage. The up-to-date modern was actually very close to Mecca. Human hearts still seek peace in the same prayers, and the same prostrations before Allah.

There was something very appealing and provocative in that thought of "playing ancients." Somehow it made me think again of a people who want to restore "primitive Christianity." As members of churches of Christ, we long to see the real religion of New Testament times in this present age and we seek to practise it. Some feel that too often our attention is wholly concentrated on principles, on practices, on forms and on ceremonies. Granting the importance of these things, it must be remembered that their restoration will not bring New Testament Christianity unless we ourselves have the spirit and the fire of the early church consuming us. When the Christ of the New Testament takes full possession and control of our lives, we shall be fired with such a zeal for the salvation of the world as the ancients had, and a full and perfect restoration of New Testament Christianity will be at hand.

The first disciples left all to follow Jesus. Early Christians sold all their possessions and laid the proceeds at the feet of the apostles. These same people, when scattered abroad, went everywhere preaching the word. Later Christians gave abundantly out of deep poverty, but first of all they gave their own selves to the Lord. Here is an aspect of our plea worthy of our serious consideration and consistent emulation. Here is an opportunity for us all to "play ancients." Were we all to give ourselves unreservedly to Christ and then give of what he has so abundantly given us, what a difference it would make to the offering of July 2 and the work of the coming year!

"THE spontaneous expansion of the church reduced to its elements is a very simple thing. It asks for no elaborate organisation, no large finances, no great numbers of paid missionaries. In its beginnings it may be the work of one man, and that a man neither learned in the things of this world, nor rich in the wealth of this world."—Roland Allen.



Hindu Sadhu's Bed of Spikes

Such painful penances are done in an effort to attain supernatural powers. These men seem oblivious to physical pain. This man's travail shows the length some will go to find the "way of life."

when they have worked under the direction of the Holy Spirit of God. God wants the best that is in us, and will use it to his glory, if we will surrender it to him.

Christ's whole ministry to mankind is based on this great compassion for man. He was sorry to see the world under bondage to sin, and he came to redeem it. Being sorry for us in our ignorance of the nature of God, he taught those truths which mean so much to the world. Seeing the discomforts under which man was laboring, he performed the miracles of provision and healing.

It is that same spirit of compassion that the missionary needs in foreign lands to-day. Self-righteous evangelism is of very little use, but the evangelism which springs from compassion is a tremendous force. Educationalism done in the spirit of superiority will produce results which may be actually bad, but educationalism done in the spirit of compassion is a magnificent force for good. Medical and other social service done with ulterior motives is soon discovered and ranks low in the appreciation of those for whom it is done; but if it is done in the spirit of compassion, it is "love in action," than which no force can be greater.

It is the quality of this compassion in your hearts, the compassion which will compel you to go, or to send others, to the people of other nations in order to bring them the good things which you have received, which will decide the value to God of your efforts in foreign mission work. It is only as you are sorry for others that God will give you Christian joy in your own heart.

Give, with compassion in your hearts, so that we may practise the threefold ministry of Christ to the people in "Our India."

JULY 2:

A DAY OF OPPORTUNITY
in Overseas Evangelism

The Australian Christian

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Crowds Flocking Gandhi.

This leader continues to be a puzzle and a problem. He was born October 2, 1869, and though nearly 76 years of age, continues to wield power. Even those whose sympathies are not with Gandhi are nevertheless glad that he has recently been released from prison. He is no stranger to prison, nor are many of his followers.

Educational Work at Baramati

John Bairagi, Baramati, India

I THINK if we do any educational work at all, we should do it thoroughly. At the same time, we must bear in mind that educational work is only a means to an end, the end being the proclamation of the gospel. I believe it is possible to do a good deal of real evangelistic work in the school without calling it evangelistic. The seeds sown in the school will germinate and bear fruit. Good results have been obtained by means of institutional work. With this preamble, I would urge the extension and the intensification of the educational work both here at Baramati and elsewhere.

First of all there is the need for the introduction of English in the top classes so that the children appearing for the Vernacular Final examination could sit for the Third Standard English in the same year. This would save them one year, and also they would be able to get a better grasp of English in three years than in one year, as at present, in the special English class.

Secondly, there is a growing population of young people in this town of Baramati. There are about six thousand children of school-going age in Baramati, of whom about three thousand are actually in schools. The local high school has about six hundred children. Of this number, only about two hundred are of actual high school stage, the rest are only of upper primary stage. These go to the high school because of English. This shows that more and more these Hindus are awakening to the need and recognition of the importance of the English language. Quite recently English has been introduced in the Seva Sadan school for girls, and a large number of children are

Mr. John Bairagi, B.D.

A forward move was made in "Our India" when last year Mr. John Bairagi joined the staff of the mission. In his own words, "I come from Fiji and a convert from Hinduism." Born of humble parentage, he made his way to India and entered Carey's College (Serampore) for higher education. He is giving a fine lead to our young men. In the near future, we hope that Hari Waghmodi and Ratan William Parkhe, now at universities, will also complete their work and return to our work, the first as a preacher, the second as a doctor.



attending private classes in English. These facts indicate that if we opened special classes for English in the town itself there would be a good response. When the community hall is built in the town, then classes could be held in it; but for the time being, if we erect three additional class-rooms in the mission property near the church, these could serve

as class-rooms for senior girls from our school as well as for the English project in the town. The site near the church is an ideal one for such a purpose, and in course of time it is bound to become the most attractive site for a school in the whole town of Baramati. In this way an entrance can be gained into the midst of the people in the town. The English New Testament will be used as a text book. English songs and hymns will sow the seed of essential Christian doctrine.

This school should prepare boys for definite work for the Lord. A good education is necessary. Boys passing the vernacular final examination should be allowed to remain on and get higher education. It is not possible to send all of them to the local high school. The fees would be heavy. We could and should give them another two or three years' education here. The boys could study for three hours a day and work for three hours a day. They could grow vegetables for which there is a ready market right here. These boys could be prepared for the Serampore Matriculation and later on prepare for the Anglo-vernacular L.Th. After all is said and done, the one work of the mission is telling the good news, and for this we require the right type of men and women. I feel we cannot leave to ignoramus the all-important task of proclaiming the imperishable message of eternal salvation.

"IN HIS NAME"

(Continued from page 279)

Forceful, earnest service by the individual Christian on the home front means a well rooted and grounded overseas work.

The story is told of an Indian mother who had two children—one a bonny, bright-eyed toddler, the other a wee blind babe. To appease the anger of her heathen gods, the mother sacrificed one of the children in a sacred river. When asked why she had sacrificed the bright, lovable toddler rather than the blind, helpless babe, the mother, with tear-filled eyes, replied indignantly as she drew herself up, "Only the best is good enough for my God."

Brethren, as we face the tremendous task of winning the world for Christ, what are we prepared to do, to give, to sacrifice? We bear the name which is above every name. May our answer be "Only the best" whatever the service we render in his name.

AN AFRICAN "CURE"

The *Unevangelised Fields Mission* tells of the following incident.

In a time of sickness an African evangelist went to a neighboring village in search of healing. After the payment of the requisite sum, the man was given an amulet to wear on his arm, and was told that it would accomplish what he wished. Some days later, when the amulet was opened, it was found to contain: (1) The label from a Portuguese sardine tin; (2) Two half-pages torn from a Kingwana New Testament; (3) One page from a little Kingwana book of texts, with the preacher's name written on the back; (4) Two pieces torn from a Belgian newspaper published in the country; (5) Four pages from another portion of the Kingwana New Testament. They were all folded tightly together and sewn inside a dirty piece of cloth. No cure was effected!

WHERE HE LEADS ME

Mrs. W. Waterman

IT will be ten years this July since we arrived back from China. At that time I felt lost—alone and without a definite purpose in life. I had my two girls, and realised my chief task must be caring for them. Beyond the care of my girls, I sought to take my share in serving Christ, as opportunity came. Whatever service I was able to do, I loved doing it, but always felt that if God would grant me the privilege, I would like again to go forward in service for him overseas.

Our life has been such that the missionary interest has constantly been before us, so keeping alive the yearning to bring trophies to my Master from among those less fortunate than we are. Because our interests are the same, my girls rejoice with me in this appointment to the Islands. They, too, are hoping to be used in similar ways and so are training for it.

At the age of seven years, I began to choose missionary service; and though God has seen fit to divert my energies in other channels at times (perhaps for the purpose of fuller training in life's experiences), he still directs me to service abroad. I willingly set forth again feeling that he is leading me, and knowing that he will sustain me, and in his strength I will be made strong to do his bidding, so I press toward the mark—the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Thus, "where he leads me, I will follow."

"LOVEST THOU ME?"

Isabelle E. Jeffery, President Victorian Women's Conference

JESUS—"The Light of the world," said to his disciples, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel, and lo! I am with you always." Jesus trusted those whom he trained, also we his witnesses to-day to carry on the great task of evangelising the world. If we fully realised that "sacred trust," the love of Christ would constrain us to sweep over land and sea, carrying the gospel of God's grace to every creature. God so loved the world that he gave his only Son. Jesus so loved that he gave his life to save mankind. "Lovest thou me?" Love so amazing, so divine, demands our soul, our life, our all.

DIVIDENDS

Ruby W. McCallum, President, N.S.W. Women's Conference

THE world has received dividends from missions beyond all the calculations of man. Many of the amenities of life are directly the profits of missionary zeal. The past two years have made many Australians aware of the value of the missionary work among the natives of the South Pacific Islands, for Island Christians have saved the lives of numbers of our men or have helped the wounded and the dying. And yet the world has also received dividends from the lack of missions. When the love of Christ is not known amongst the affairs of men, and in their hearts the world is bathed in the sorrow of war. We are investing our capital in one of these two enterprises continually. Through missions we are looking for the dividends of peace. Through our refusal to support missions we are harvesting the dividends of strife. The only market for the Christian is the market of peace.

ANNUAL OVERSEAS OFFERING — SUNDAY, JULY 2
PRAY FOR IT PAY FOR IT

Complacency Condemned in Brisbane

P. C. D. Alcorn, B.A., our Queensland correspondent, writes on the self-confessed failure of the church and on the advantages of a mission to seamen.

UNDER the heading, "A Soldier Wonders," a Brisbane newspaper gave prominence to a letter written by a soldier discharged from the army. Parts of the letter read: "In search of a quiet week-end I went to a town close to Brisbane. Illicit gambling was rife. Among the gamblers were obviously fit young men of military age, who seem to be skilled only in obscenities and profanities. In one betting shop I found two women, one with a young baby, among the vociferous gamblers. Are they typical of the Australian womanhood of whom we were so militantly proud when we were overseas? Is this the bawdy, avaricious, unhealthy atmosphere from which some Australian children derive their first impressions? These things come very sour to the taste of one who has been in the army. If these things epitomised the national spirit of the Australian people, they would not be worth one drop of the blood that has been shed in their defence."

The Church of the Future

The annual Presbyterian Assembly discussed many matters affecting the future welfare of the church.

The Senior Chaplain said that young Servicemen and women would have a very large say about the future world and would demand a freer life, freer church, and more freedom within the church. The vast majority of men and women in the Forces were not concerned with what a man called himself. All they were concerned with was what a man was. They had no time for hypocrisy, bigotry or religious intolerance.

The decline in the number of Sunday schools

and in Sunday school attendances was discussed. It was suggested that specially designed Sunday school buildings should be erected; that larger churches should have a qualified person to concentrate on the interests of boys and girls; that a new evangelistic move in the church be initiated to get strategic people back into the church as teachers.

The establishment of a radio station by combined churches with moral and spiritual sessions predominating to enable the churches to contact people outside their reach was also suggested.

Has the Church Lost Her Fervor?

The newly-elected Moderator of the Presbyterian Assembly in his address reproved the church for her loss of fervor. "Our faith is not dead," he said, "but fervor has burnt itself out. To-day it is sadly apparent that the majority of people have little faith in the church, perhaps because the church has too little faith in its message."

The Roman Catholic Archbishop seized the opportunity to claim that the services of the Roman Catholic Church were never better attended in his experience, never was greater fervor shown by the congregations, never were the people more generous in their contributions. Just how much a church should publish its failings is a moot point. However, a church that is conscious of its imperfection and not content to have it so is likely to progress.

Missions to Seamen

The Missions to Seamen conducted by the Anglican Church seem to have done good work in providing comforts, clothing, meals, beds and entertainments for sailors in port. This work must be appreciated, for we understand the hostels conducted by the other churches are not able to cater for men of the merchant navy and remain free from taxation. The mission demonstrated on a small scale how men of many different nationalities could meet on common ground and get on well with each other by friendship and goodwill.

From Week to Week

IT would be difficult to find a period in history when leaders of nations have called their people to prayer so often and with such genuine sincerity. The beautiful message that His Gracious Majesty King George VI. delivered on the day of the invasion of Europe, to his people throughout the world, touched the hearts of multitudes. The call to the men and women of the Empire to rededication and to stand on God's side in this struggle encourages those who are concerned with the spiritual welfare of the nation. With such a devout leader on the throne, the future of Christianity in the Empire ought to be brighter and full of promise.

President Roosevelt led his people in a prayer in which God's help was sought. The final words of supplication were: "Help us to conquer the apostles of greed and racial arrogances. Lead us to the saving of our country, and, with our sister nations, into the world unity that will spell sure peace—a peace invulnerable to the schemings of unworthy men, a peace that will let all men live in freedom, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil. Thy will be done, Almighty God."

ON D day, when all the arrangements and orders for the invasion had been given, a reporter found General Montgomery resting quietly to build up his strength after a period of strenuous effort. The general was alone. The reporter, knowing the habits of this "Bible-

reading general," suggested he had retired to pray. All we know of General Montgomery suggests that is just what he would do. Marshall Foch, the hero of the last war, made it a practice to pray regularly in the midst of his campaigns.

War correspondents have been caught up by the religious spirit prevailing in high places, and seek to report incidents revealing the devotional background of those engaged in the war. One writer could not refrain from mentioning that, as soon as he arrived on the French coast, he saw a unique sight. A young soldier, waiting for orders, was sitting calmly amid ammunition, reading his Bible, while shells were bursting all about him.

What we desire to see is that this religious fervor will have a genuine expression in acts of repentance and reformation. Faith without works is dead, and religion without expression in righteous deeds ends in vanity. Therefore we hope to find a definite trend back to church, as a result of these momentous events in which our national leaders see the need of divine help if we are to come through successfully.

AT home we see signs of a new appreciation of the need of bringing Christian teaching into the midst of life. Those who did not desire to have the "secular" clause removed from the Victorian Educational Act were asked by the Premier, Mr. Dunstan: "If

we believe in Christianity, why not tell our children so? If you do not object to religious instruction being continued in State schools why should it not be embodied in the Education Act?" It seems that the Premier is aware of the need of giving boys and girls a religious training, and desires the State to help to that end.

These are encouraging signs, and Christians ought to rally to the churches and make the most of this revived interest in religion.

The Church's One Foundation

For his June hymn, F. J. Funston, of Victoria, has selected No. 211, which is to be sung on June 18.

IN the early sixties, Bishop Colenso, of Natal, wrote and taught along such unorthodox lines as to cause reverberations through all Christendom. The tangled skein of legal proceedings which followed was not unravelled with the bishop's deposition, nor indeed until after his death twenty years later. But everywhere a time of searching led to a general call to return to the fundamentals of the faith. Even the songs of the church were affected. S. J. Stone, an English minister then stationed at Windsor, took up the strain and wrote a series of hymns stoutly affirming the church's loyalty to clause after clause of the Apostles' Creed. Firm adherence to the Anglican faith is suggested by these words of his:—

"Ancient prayer and song liturgic,
Creeds that change not to the end,
As his gift we have received them,
As his charge we will defend."

Only one of his hymns has burst the bounds of Anglicanism and become a hymn of the church universal. "I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting," says the creed; and the hymn bears witness that "The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord." Succeeding verses set forth her divine origin, her doctrinal basis, her spiritual food. The troublesome times leave their mark—"By schisms rent asunder, by heresies distrest." The church belongs not to earth alone, but has "mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won." Her ultimate victory is assured and "the great church victorious shall be the church at rest." Verses usually omitted tell triumphantly that "the church shall never perish" and that "thy true word remaineth."

So definitely has the hymn become part of the church's life that an Anglican dignitary visiting in connection with the opening of a building is reported to have said light-heartedly that on such occasions he could always rely on two things—cold chicken and "The church's one foundation"—a tribute to Anglicanism for the hospitality of its homes and the virility of its songs!

WINTER APPEAL

The work of the Melbourne City Mission is appreciated by many in Victoria. During winter there are special needs to be met, and a special appeal for help has been sent out. H. P. Virtue, hon. treasurer, writes: "The needs are great and our sphere of helpfulness is always extending. But with extension of work come added financial responsibilities and added opportunities for service." Donations may be sent to F. L. Bruce, superintendent and secretary Melbourne City Mission Headquarters, 280 Exhibition-st., Melbourne, C.1.

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Here and There

At recent annual meeting of church at Lismore, N.S.W., it was decided to celebrate diamond jubilee on Sept. 17.

We are indebted to A. Anderson, secretary of Foreign Mission Board, for supplying blocks and articles for this overseas mission number.

J. E. Thomas has been reappointed chairman of the Victorian F.M. Committee. New members of committee are V. L. Gole, F. H. Simpson and C. H. J. Wright.

J. E. Allan, Victorian F.M. secretary, will be absent in N.S.W. for the next two months. In his absence F.M. matter will be attended to by L. Gole, assistant secretary.

We regret to learn that Mrs. Mitchell, wife of the late George Mitchell, of the church at Swanston-st., Melbourne, died suddenly on June 8 while at Shepparton, Vic.

We are pleased to note that all copies of the book by A. M. Ludbrook, "Notable Hymns and Their Authors," have been disposed of. This book, which has been appreciated by many, is now out of print.

C. F. Adermann, M.H.R., newly-appointed president of Federal Conference of churches of Christ, wires from Queensland that he desires Christians to uphold nation and rulers in prayer, and suggests that churches provide facilities for constant prayer during crisis.

The North Suburban Melbourne "Churches of Christ Tennis Association" under the presidency of Dr. E. R. Killmier held a mid-season social function on June 3 in the Essendon Baptist youth hall. Mr. Burns acted as master of ceremonies. The association is keen to use its recreational activities as a means of promoting Christian unity. Happy fellowship is enjoyed by several co-operating Baptist teams.

We are interested to learn that Malcolm McIntyre, of Mt. Tyson, Oakey, Qld., has been elected to the House of Assembly of that State at the recent elections, as member for Cunningham. Mr. McIntyre is an isolated member of Toowoomba church, and has been a loyal member for many years, sharing in the fellowship of all brotherhood works. We noted with interest that L. G. Riches had been re-elected for a further term in the South Australian Parliament. He is also Mayor of Port Augusta.

It was decided to open Swanston-st. chapel on the day when the Lord Mayor of Melbourne called the people of the city to prayer. Despite wet weather, about 600 attended during the session from noon to 2 p.m. People came and departed to suit their convenience. Mr. Nance-Kivell and Chaplain J. E. Thomas, assisted by Messrs. Robbins, Anderson, Stafford, Taylor, Crisp and Grainger, led the service. Mr. B. Mitchell played the organ and appropriate hymns were sung. Short messages were spoken, and prayers expressing dependence upon God and the need for revival, were offered. Psalm 46 was read. The service was much appreciated.

At annual business meeting of church at Coburg, Vic., the following were elected as officers: J. Elder (secretary), H. Barnden (treasurer), R. Wright (Bible school superintendent), P. Lennox, W. Anderson, C. Wright, W. Gray, H. Lofts and T. Girvan. These were inducted into office by W. Wakefield on May 28, when Miss Olive Russell sang. At night Christian Endeavorers conducted service, and D. Wilson, president of Coburg-Brunswick Union, gave address. Ladies' Guild held successful anniversary on May 31, when Mrs. Jeffery, president women's conference, was speaker. A temple day was held on June 3; the offering amounted to £204, but has since been increased to £227. At evening service on June 4 Mr. Lunn, of Sudan United Mission, gave an illustrated address.

Missionary Farewells

ON Friday, June 2, at Lygon-st. hall, Miss M. Clipstone and Mrs. G. Waterman, missionaries for New Hebrides, were farewelled by the Victorian F.M. Committee at a dinner arranged by Lygon-st. sisters. The F.M. chairman, J. E. Thomas, presided, and welcomed the missionaries and representative guests. Farewell speeches were made by E. L. Williams, conference president; Mrs. Jeffery, president sisters' conference; Mrs. W. A. Kemp, L. Gole, A. W. Cleland, S. Neighbour and W. R. Hibbert. Miss Clipstone and Mrs. Waterman responded, and spoke of their delight in entering upon missionary service again.

On Monday, June 5, at 8 p.m., in Swanston-st. chapel, a largely attended gathering paid fitting tribute to Miss Clipstone and Mrs. Waterman. The F.M. chairman, J. E. Thomas, presided in happy style. A beautiful atmosphere prevailed, and each speech and item contributed to the success of a memorable missionary farewell meeting.

R. L. Williams, assisted by Mrs. Wickman as organist, conducted an impressive song service. Musical items by A. Haskell and the Emmanuel Quartette Party were appropriate and beautifully rendered. C. B. Nance-Kivell led in prayer and Isaiah 55 was read by D. E. Pittman. Inspiring messages of farewell were given by E. L. Williams, conference president; Mrs. Jeffery, president of sisters' conference; B. W. Huntsman and J. E. Allan. Beautiful flowers were presented to the missionaries by Mrs. Jeffery on behalf of Victorian sisters' conference. The chairman, on behalf of F.M. Committee, presented a set of carvers as a wedding gift to Miss Clipstone, and on behalf of her home church, Kaniva, R. L. Williams read a greeting and made a presentation of a cheque as a wedding present.

In impressive responses Miss Clipstone and Mrs. Waterman thanked all for kindly wishes, and appealed for the earnest prayers and practical support of the churches. T. H. Scambler commended the departing missionaries to God in a dedicatory prayer. An inspiring meeting concluded with the singing of "God be with you."

Notes on Current Topics

Liberation of Rome

AS I write, news of the allied advance through Rome and the liberation of the Italian capital from Nazi control has been received with rejoicing. Apparently the city has not been seriously damaged, and for that we should be thankful, even while approving the allied leaders' contention that, while desiring to spare the historic city, the saving of human lives and the securing of victory must have precedence over the preservation of buildings. The papal hierarchy, which pleaded for the saving of Rome as it did not for historic or sacred buildings elsewhere, expresses its thankfulness. I note that the Germans, who stayed in the city till they were compelled to retire, made a closing appeal that Rome be regarded as an open city, and that, as expected, the German radio announces, "Hitler has saved Rome." In any case, the city has happily escaped great loss. The welcome given by the Italian inhabitants to the allied troops is a gratifying sign. It must be left to experts to assess the strategic value of this recent victory, but I feel sure we may rejoice in it, and chiefly because it seems to herald the liberation of other cities and countries and to bring the return of peace nearer.

The Allied Invasion

News of the beginning of the great invasion came after the foregoing note was despatched.

Notes on this great "current topic" will fill the newspapers. The future of us all will be greatly influenced by the events of the next few weeks. What they will mean for oppressed and occupied countries can be imagined. It is a time for Christians to pray. Churches are open and will be used by many. But by private prayer at office or home we may help our men and the world at large.

A. R. MAIN.

A Visit to the South-West

ANSWERING an urgent call to come and visit amongst the brethren at Portland, we have just concluded a most delightful trip down in the cradle of our State. To cover as much ground as possible on the trip, we included Warrnambool and Port Fairy en route. We cannot speak too highly of the way the brethren rallied for a splendid week-night audience in each place. A busy day's visitation was done in Port Fairy. This was our first call on the circuit since the appointment of T. V. Weir. He has made a good start. At Portland the plan of visitation was the best that has ever been put before us. We called upon almost every member's home over a very big area, from Narrawong in the east to Gorae West, and as far as Heywood in the north, including Heathmere and Allestree. Much of this country is a comparatively new settlement carved out of the forest. It was great to see these people in their homes. In a number of places we were the first of our preachers to call upon them. They have come mostly from other centres, and are keen to witness for the Restoration Movement. They are happy to co-operate with all local Christian work, but firm in their determination to retain association in the movement which they believe has the solution of the deplorable situation witnessed by denominationalism. The State has many fields where this kind of work can be done and our brethren grouped together—Gippsland after the war, when transport is available, will reveal a similar opportunity. Then, after Sunday morning service at Portland, we reached Hamilton for evening service—our first call there since the arrival of A. E. Forbes; there was a splendid audience. The after-church fellowship, which was led in singing by Mr. Forbes, was one of the best we have seen. Mr. and Mrs. Forbes have been very well received, and have made an excellent impression. We return with the feeling there is an unlimited field for this kind of work, but transport at the present is the big problem.—W. Gale.

The Family Altar

J. C. F. Pittman

TOPIC.—"SIR, WE WOULD SEE JESUS"

- June 19—1 Cor. 1: 17-35.
- " 20—1 Cor. 1: 26-31.
- " 21—Eph. 1: 3-14.
- " 22—Col. 1: 9-23.
- " 23—Col. 3: 1-11.
- " 24—John 12: 20-36.
- " 25—Isaiah 50: 4-11; John 12: 37-50.

SUDAN, MISSION

Victorian Women's Auxiliaries of the Sudan Mission have planned a Market Fair for Wednesday, June 21, at Central House, 174 Collins-st., C.1. (2nd floor). The Lady Mayoress, Mrs. Edward Campbell, will officially open the fair at 11.30 a.m. Miss Ella Johnston will entertain.

The Australian Christian

News of the Churches

South Australia

Prospect.—Services on June 4 were exhorted by A. E. Brown; there were good attendances. Bible class held fellowship tea and service of song. At evening service Mrs. Dix rendered a solo. Good attendance at Bible school. Mrs. Terrace, who has assisted in junior department as teacher and superintendent, has resigned and Miss E. Purdie has taken charge. Kindergarten has enrolled a number of new scholars during past few weeks.

Timby Bay.—On May 14 Mother's Day services were held. H. G. Norris spoke at both meetings, and special singing was rendered. On evening of May 21, the first undenominational service was held in Institute, when H. G. Norris delivered a fine message. About 150 people were present. On May 28, in absence of H. G. Norris, who conducted a series of meetings at Maylands, J. H. I. Durdin addressed the church and was much appreciated. Sunday school has gained several new scholars.

Flinders Park.—Intermediate C.E. society held a welcome home social in the form of an "amateur hour" on May 18 for Glen Pearce, who has been discharged from the Army. The church has had fellowship with Joan Little, Joan Boyd and Gordon Clark, home on leave, and at Endeavor meeting on June 4 Joan Little gave a talk on Christian witness in camp. Congratulations and good wishes are extended to Edgar Hatswell on his marriage to Mavis Boyce on June 10. Mr. Rootes, of York church, was morning speaker on June 4. A record number of entries (24) has been received from scholars of Bible school for scripture examination.

Cottonville.—A "thanksgiving day" was held on May 27, when chapel was open from 2 p.m. to receive members' contributions. The aim was £150, and the object to reduce debt on church property by that sum. The aim was reached, and to date £153 has been received. The amount owing on mortgage will be reduced to under £100. In evening a thanksgiving service was held, with Mr. Schwab chairman, and Glenelg young people's choir assisted. Young People's Department offering was £4/1/-, and average weekly offering for May was £8/7/1. Meetings have been well attended with the following assisting: Messrs. Schwab, Bridgman, Hollams and Cliff Butler. A youth service was held on June 4, with several young people taking part. A social was held in church hall on May 20, when 34 were present. Miss Gray, from W.C.T.U., was speaker at Ladies' Auxiliary on May 24. Capt. Jackson is home on leave, and attended services on June 4. Rob Caldicott is in hospital again in New Guinea. E. Brand is making steady progress. Mr. Brooke is recovering from illness, and left for Merbein on June 9 for several months' rest.

New South Wales

Paddington.—C.E. Society held a successful camp fire meeting on May 30. There were visitors from Manly, Kingsford and Paddington City Mission. Sunday meetings were well attended. R. Wilson preached at both services. Several visitors from the Forces attended, also C. Rose on leave. Open air Bible school and open air meetings are being carried on by young people with good interest.

Chatswood.—The church has extended the engagement of F. A. Youens for a further period of two years. May meetings disclosed a high standard, the worship service of last Lord's

day for that month having attendance of 173 communicants. The resignation from position of elder by W. Macindoe was received with regret. As part of Mother's Day celebrations, the Seekers' Club entertained mothers at a special night. Recent visitors included David Thorpe, from Grote-st., S.A.

Lidcombe-Carramar.—A very successful Bible school anniversary was held. Mr. Beale, of North Auburn, gave an illustrated talk to school on afternoon of May 7 and distributed awards to kinders. A helpful message was given by the Y.P. organiser, Roy Greenhalgh, on evening of May 9, when prizes were distributed to older scholars. Mother's Day services at both centres were well attended. At close of evening service at Carramar, four young people were received into fellowship. Ladies' meetings show progress both in numbers and interest. Three Bible school girls made the good confession on May 28 and June 4. New scholars have also been added to school. An enjoyable day was spent by a party of young people from the church at the home of the preacher and his wife on May 22. Colin Stevenson, who has joined the R.A.A.F., will be leaving on June 16; united prayers will follow him.

Victoria

Yarrowonga.—May 28 was S.S. anniversary. Mr. Lloyd, of Wangaratta, was guest speaker, speaking at three services. The children under Mr. Houghton's leadership sang well. A social was arranged for children on Monday night, when prizes were distributed. L. Jackson has been home on leave from New Guinea.

Geelong.—Services were well attended on June 4. K. Macnaughtan continues to give powerful and uplifting messages. Members are taking keen interest in special effort to reduce debt on building, £250 being aim by October. Newly-formed choir is proving helpful to evening services. Members look forward to visit from students of College of the Bible on July 5.

Hampton.—On June 6 a public meeting was held to welcome C. L. Lang to the ministry of the church. V. L. Gole presided, and greetings were given by R. T. Pittman for church and by D. Allen for youth. Mrs. Henshilwood spoke for ladies' auxiliaries, and presented a bouquet to Miss J. Lang. Musical items were enjoyed, and supper afforded an opportunity for introduction of Mr. Lang to individual members.

Berwick.—The children are taking active interest in Young Worshipers' League just commenced. Appearance of chapel has been improved by frosted windows, cost of which was paid by Ladies' Aid. Mr. Fletcher has returned after college vacation. In his absence Mr. Gavros gave helpful addresses and messages in song. Members attended well at half-yearly business meeting on evening of June 3.

Carlton (Queensberry-st.).—Very successful anniversary meetings have been held. On June 4. E. McClean spoke in morning, W. W. Baird at night. On June 6 there was a large and happy gathering. Mrs. Waterman and Miss Clipstone gave brief messages. The F.M. committee representative, J. E. Thomas, also spoke. Musical items were rendered by Andrew Chan and the choir of the Young Chinese Christian Fellowship. At close supper was served.

Hawthorn.—Four lads have confessed Christ in past few weeks. One has been received into fellowship, and the other three were to be received on June 11. The band of young people, though small in number, are great in enthusiasm and loyalty. The officers have asked J. E. Allan to take a special vacation of

two months, with the hope that he will recover health in a warmer district. He hopes to spend that period in Sydney. T. Westwood will preach during Mr. Allan's absence. With regret the church has parted with E. Allsop, loved and able secretary of past few years, on his transfer to Barnawartha school.

Hamilton.—On May 30, senior C.E. Society held a meeting in home of Mrs. Spillman. Opportunity was taken to say farewell to Don McPherson, who is moving to Brim. A pleasing feature was the cutting of 21st birthday cake in honor of Miss Ellen Tilley. Junior C.E. held a social evening, when a happy time was spent with other young people, and many mothers were present. At church quarterly business meeting, reports revealed all auxiliaries in healthy condition. Mrs. Viddrie, who recently made the good confession, presented a beautifully bound and illustrated Bible to the church. At morning service on June 4, Mrs. Clough, and Mr. and Mrs. Haebeck, from Ballarat, were received into fellowship. At gospel service W. Gale spoke encouragingly. A happy time was spent at after-church fellowship with Mr. Gale.

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Applications invited for position of lady Associate Secretary in Sydney, for NATIONAL MISSIONARY COUNCIL of Australia. Good salary. Applications must reach No. 503 Women's National Service Office, 32 Martin-pl., Sydney, not later than June 30, with full particulars of office and secretarial experience, shorthand and typing speeds, age, church affiliation and experience in Christian service, also previous contacts with overseas missionary work either (a) in Australia, or (b) abroad, with references.

WANTED

The college students are urgently in need of football guernseys, and would appreciate the help of any church having guernseys to spare or not in use. Any church able to help is asked to communicate with K. W. Barton, College of the Bible, Glen Iris. U4170.

DEATH

LAWRANCE.—Wilfred Henry Fennell Lawrance (result of accident), of York, Western Australia, beloved husband of Elsie and loving father of Ray and Eric.

IN MEMORIAM

LAWSON.—In fond remembrance of Annie, beloved wife of Walter, and mother of Dorothy (Mrs. C. Daff) and Graham, called home suddenly June 17, 1943. Loved by all.

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 cross-firing. The insertion of a letter does not imply editorial approval of its contents.—Ed.)

A FRIENDLY MUSICAL CRITICISM

IT is universally admitted that music plays an important part in the service of worship. Why, then, is it that we are accused, and I think justifiably so, of neglecting this important aid to worship? Cheap, sentimental music, rollicking hymns and rowdy singing cannot be regarded as other than inappropriate to a beautiful service.

Let our organists remember that there are other organ composers than Batiste, Morley and Simper; there is a wealth of organ music from Bach, Franck, Reger, Karg-Elert, etc., without playing poor quality arrangements of "pretty tunes."

The standard of our hymn-singing and also our choice of hymns and solos is far from inspiring. There are many hymns, sung regularly at our services, which are suitable only for children, and should not be sung by a congregation of adults. Further, our congregational singing is marred by wrong tempi—we sing too quickly or drag out a tune beyond recognition, and why is it necessary to sound the starting-note for each verse as though we were all tone-deaf?

Let us each do our own small part in endeavoring to improve the standard of music in our own churches.—Gorden W. Day.

CHRISTIAN UNITY

MANY of our brethren will be grateful to A. C. Caldicott for his timely emphasis concerning what so many of us must be thinking on this subject.

The church is a spiritual unity already made, transcending any man-made conceptions. We are already united on fundamentals, viz., (a) Belief in God, his holiness, Deity and Fatherhood; (b) Belief in Christ as the Son of God—his Deity, virgin birth, sinless life, atonement, death, resurrection and ascension; (c) Belief in the Holy Spirit as the third person of the Godhead; his indwelling in the believer; (d) The inspiration of the holy scriptures as the divine word, their authority and appeal for faith and practice. A wrong premise makes us wrong all the way through, and to presume the church is not united essentially is to do despite to her spiritual character.

Because one assembly of Christians lays greater emphasis upon a particular aspect of doctrine, surely this alone does not divide the body of Christ! "There are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all" (1 Cor. 12: 6). A great orchestra, composed of many varying instruments, all differing in themselves, yet combining in one glorious and harmonious symphony, is a picture of Christ's church; each branch of the church contributing its part to the work of the Lord, and the wondrous gospel message is proclaimed, a bit here and a bit there, to the saving of men. It might be pleasing to the eye of man to see all housed under one roof or herded into one particular fold; but if the same could be achieved to-morrow, we would have accomplished absolutely nothing of spiritual value. Our Roman Catholic brethren have organic unity but are bankrupt of spiritual power! Surely principles have not to be jettisoned for expediency! Scripture nowhere

demands that Christians see eye to eye on every dot and comma.

It is now too late in this dispensation of the day of grace to be concerned with anything less than the proclamation of the good news of salvation as it is in Christ. Let us not be sidetracked in the church's task; but assured "There is one body and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in you all" (Ephes. 4).

"One holy church, one army strong,
One steadfast, high intent;
One working band, one harvest-song,
One King omnipotent."

—L. R. E. McClean, Toorak, Vic.

A. C. CALDICOTT'S complaint would resolve itself largely on its repetition. It has been often said, "You can't have too much of a good thing." Our brother errs greatly in saying that our Saviour did not care for Christian union, for Christ distinctly conditioned the salvation of the world upon it, as it would be borne out by the preaching of the apostles' word, that not only they but the world might believe in his heaven ordained mission.

Our only chart is Christ's word of truth, just as there is a standard weight or measurement for commodities or distances, the only difference perhaps being that in spiritual values change is not the principle of progress. As to many of us, there may be disappointment and impatience because for various reasons the "plea" of the churches of Christ possibly does not function as it ought. We should at all times, even if we seem destructive, offer something in a constructive way. By not so doing we do a great disservice to the cause we espouse if we really believe in it. I have felt quite nervous for some time in the discussion going on for union with the Baptists. For instance, lest we should do dishonor in some way to the glorious pioneers of our movement (it being a pity that it should have to be referred to as a movement), and although not engaging in the fight I want to commend the Christian writers and yourself for arranging the articles that have appeared from time to time on the advocacy of Christian union by Alexander Campbell and others. Our brother says "preach Christ." To preach Christ we must preach his doctrines, just like the Jews had those that preached him (that is Moses). In so doing, of course, they preached those things concerning the law of Moses. In conclusion the churches of Christ are the only ones that have this objective or plea. Most other beliefs are an amalgamation of denominations.—T. Johnston, Launceston, Tas.

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The N.S.W. Governor Urges Self Discipline

Ethelbert Davis, of N.S.W., reports on Lord Wakehurst's address, and on a dispute concerning church practices.

LORD WAKEHURST, in a recent address, said some things worth thinking about on the need of self-reform. "Belief in the religious foundation of society is the fundamental division between us and our enemies," he said. Democracy required good citizenship if freedom were not to degenerate into licence. We are assured that order and freedom could be maintained only by self-discipline. Without self-discipline democracy would be impossible. We are all agreed that order if not imposed from within, would be imposed from without, and that way led to dictatorship.

He urged his hearers to remember that it was essential to win a general acknowledgment that the aim of life was something more than the satisfaction of physical and intellectual impulses. A soft spot was touched when he said that "The reconstruction we are most generally keenest on is reforming of other people; might we not be well advised to start reforming ourselves?" Similar things have been said by others; but it is good to hear such statements from those in high places.

Equally interesting is a statement made about the church and politics by Mr. Spender, M.P., in an address on "The Christian Citizen in a New Era." Mr. Spender said that the church had failed to give an adequate lead to the world because of its lack of unity. With that most of our readers would agree. Contrary to a rather popular belief is the following: "The church must not take an active part in politics. Other troubles of the church would not be comparable to the evils that would follow if the church became political. Attention must be directed to serving one's country through the teachings of Christ."

Thanksgiving Fund

The Presbyterian General Assembly, held recently in Sydney, decided to establish a thanksgiving fund for deliverance. The aim is £250,000, in gratitude that Australia had been spared the horrors of invasion. It is proposed that the fund will be used for extension purposes.

Holy Communion Dispute

Incomprehensible to the non-Anglican community is a suit against the Anglican Bishop of Bathurst, Bishop Wylde. Proceedings have begun in the equity jurisdiction. The suit will probably come into court for hearing early in August. The court will be asked to restrain the bishop from departing from the order of administration of holy communion in Bathurst Cathedral set out in the Book of Common Prayer authorised in the reign of Charles II. The complaint is that although the Book of Common Prayer contains the only legal order of giving the sacrament of communion in Anglican churches, Bishop Wylde has for some time habitually adopted the order prescribed in a book entitled, "The Holy Eucharist," commonly known as the "Red Book." Complaint, we also learn, is made that the Red Book prescribes the practice of communicants making the sign of the cross. This is unlawful according to the law of the church. The practice of ringing a sanctus bell at communion is also objected to as being illegal.

United Church Action of Australia

The above is a movement which in Sydney is quietly gathering momentum. In a brochure issued we learn that "It is a combination of men of like mind, who perceive that the enforcement of certain foundation principles inherent in our common Christianity is essential

to the welfare of our country at large. It also unites those who are conscious of certain tendencies inimical to the formation and development of these principles."

Para.

E. C. Hinrichsen, who has completed a successful mission at Inverell, has commenced a three-months' ministry with the church at Petersham. It is hoped to build up that congregation again.

Roy Acland has resigned from the church at Lismore, and will commence with the church at Mosman about the end of July or the beginning of August.

B. G. Corlett, preacher of the church at Belmore, is spending three months in New Zealand for the benefit of his health.

Owing to the serious illness of L. Burgin, preacher at Inverell, Arthur Baker, from Ballina, is assisting at Inverell. Latest reports are that Mr. Burgin is progressing favorably.

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Concerning Idols

THE recent number of "White Unto Harvest,"
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item:—

"A young man was taking a load of goods to
the railway station. He, with other cart-
men, was travelling by night. His cart was
badly loaded, too much weight was on the
oxen's necks. To make it easier for the oxen
he lifted up a great stone from the roadside
and placed it in the back of his cart. When he
got to the station in the morning he found,
to his surprise, that the stone was covered
with red paint and therefore was a god. His
fellow-cartmen scolded him, and said some
harm would come to him as that was a fierce
god. So he put it into his cart, when return-
ing, and brought it back and set it up in its
place. When telling me about it he said, 'I
am convinced there is nothing in it, for if
that stone had been a god would he not have
upset my cart that night, or else spoken to me
in a dream or otherwise, and have said, Why
have you moved me? Why are you giving me
this trouble?'"

THOUGHT

"The sower's confidence is in God
who has declared: 'My word shall
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The Australian Christian

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June 14, 1944

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Japan's Other War—

ONE evening in Shanghai, shortly before Pearl Harbour, I was sitting with Colonel S. Nishihara, spokesman for the Japanese Army. Nishihara had partaken of too much of his native wine, *sake*. Between bites of raw fish he told me of the "virtues" of his Emperor, Hirohito.

"You should become a Shintoist and follower of the Emperor," he said. "Come, now, Colonel," I protested, "I understand you are a Christian, registered in the Christian church in Japan. You Christian Japanese don't feel the same about the Emperor as other Japanese—or do you?"

Nishihara pulled himself together slowly. Obviously I had deeply offended him. "I was registered as a Christian for only one reason—for the Emperor!" he shouted, glaring at me through bloodshot eyes. "The Imperial Army ordered me to attend a Christian mission school so that I might learn English from your teachers."

"But we aren't dependent on mission schools any more," Nishihara said. "Japan has developed her own teachers. Our universities and hospitals now are far better than the mission institutions."

I asked Nishihara whether the average Japanese felt any gratitude toward the Christian missionaries for the humanitarian work they had done in Japan. "Gratitude?" The little colonel smiled. "Self-respecting Japanese resent the fact that we have had to accept anything from you foreigners. We are a superior race. We descend from the gods. It is you who should be learning from Japan. Some day Japan will control the world. Christianity will be wiped out." A half melancholy look came into his eyes. "You know," he recalled, "I did like those Christian hymns. Very strange music." He launched into "Onward Christian Soldiers."

I found something too sinister in the way Nishihara was singing that hymn. Just a few hours earlier I had reported the bombing of another Christian mission in interior China. That had been the twentieth such raid in less than a year.

Nishihara's communique that afternoon in Shanghai had said: "To-day our planes successfully bombed an *important objective* in Honan Province."

Yes, everything associated with Christianity had indeed become an "important objective." The Japanese Government persistently denied that it was trying to wipe out Christianity, but the facts spoke for themselves.

That Japan's leaders should regard Christianity as a deadly enemy is only natural. Christianity denies every doctrine which Japan's leaders, and their thousands of "thought-control police," have succeeded in pounding into the heads of the Japanese people.

Christianity denies the divinity of the Japanese Emperor and Japanese racial superiority. It urges social reforms which would lift the Japanese masses out of feudal and industrial slavery. Christianity teaches "good will toward men," a philosophy of peace. Obviously, any nation intent upon enslaving the entire world must regard this doctrine as dangerous.

The Japanese have another practical reason for fighting Christianity. Christianity is a religion of hope. Christianity

On Christianity

Robert Bellaire.

teaches that there is a day of reckoning for evil. To millions of helpless natives of the Orient, whom Japan hopes to shackle in eternal and hopeless slavery, Christianity has given faith in eventual delivery.

Japan's plan of operations against Christianity on both the military and diplomatic fronts has long been obvious. First, every Christian mission behind the Chinese lines is to be levelled to the ground by bombing. They hope the missionaries can be killed in the ruins of their missions or terrorised into fleeing from Free China. Few missionaries have fled, but many have become martyrs. Hundreds of churches, schools and hospitals lie in ruins.

The Japanese have carried out more than 800 bombing attacks on Christian missions in China in the past six years. Thousands of Chinese and foreign Christians have been killed or maimed as they were attending religious services or mission schools. The majority of victims have been young students, sometimes as many as 500 in five minutes.

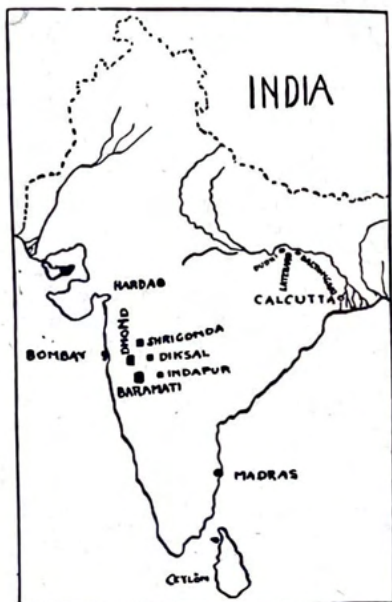
This massacre has been a long time in bringing itself to the attention of the Christian world. Each individual bombing makes only a small, inconspicuous item on the inside pages of our daily newspapers. But in the aggregate these systematic bombings should go down in history as one of the bloodiest and most ruthless campaigns ever carried out against any comparable number of Christians.

The second front on which Japan has been at war with Christianity has been behind her own lines in China, the Philippines and other occupied areas. The vast majority of Christian missionaries have been driven from their posts, imprisoned, or confined in concentration camps.

Many have been shot, beaten, given the "water cure" or subjected to atrocities too terrible to be described. Christian parishes everywhere have been turned over to Japanese "Christian missionaries," who serve under orders from the Religious Department of the Japanese Army.

These Japanese "Christian missionaries" total about fifteen times as many Christian ministers and priests as have been ordained in Japan in the past thirty years. The majority of them are carefully disguised, specially trained Shintoist priests. Their job is to sabotage Christianity from within. They don't ask the native Chinese or Filipino to give up Christianity. They tell him to remain a Christian, but to forget the lies which the Western barbarians have taught him in the name of Christianity.—Extracts from "Daily Sketch."

Our Responsibility



INDIA

HAS

- 18 MISSIONARIES TO MAINTAIN.
- 11 MISSIONARY CHILDREN.
- 5 STATIONS.
- 50 CO-WORKERS.
- 200 ORPHANS TO SUPPORT.
- SCHOOLS IN ALL CENTRES.
- STUDENTS IN TRAINING.
- HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY WORK.
- MUCH VILLAGE WORK.

PLANS

- FOR MORE WORKERS.
- FOR MORE CO-WORKERS.
- FOR TWO NEW HOSPITAL WARDS.
- FOR NEW NURSES' QUARTERS.
- FOR NEW FELLOWSHIP CENTRE.

ASKS FOR

RECORD ANNUAL BUDGET
REQUIRED: £7600



CHINA

CHINA

SUBSIDY CONTINUES TO C.H.M.S.
WIDER WORK POST-WAR PERIOD.
POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION WORK
UNLIMITED (see article inside cover).
CHINESE H.M. SOCIETY.

MAINTAIN

DOCTOR AND WIFE.
PASTOR AND WIFE.
TRAINED NURSE.
MANY OF FORMER CO-WORKERS.
HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY.
CHAPELS - SCHOOLS - OUT-STATIONS.

NEW HEBRIDES

IMMEDIATE PLANS INCLUDE
NOT LESS THAN FIVE WORKERS

MR. AND MRS. H. FINGER.

MRS. W. WATERMAN.

ANOTHER MARRIED COUPLE.

MR. RON. SAUNDERS TO RETURN TO
AUSTRALIA TO COMPLETE EDUCATION.

PENTECOST

TO HAVE MISSIONARY COUPLE.

ADEQUATE BUILDING FACILITIES
FOR AOBA AND PENTECOST.



New Hebrides Statistics

AOBA

19 CHURCHES.
800* CHRISTIANS.
300 BEING INSTRUCTED.
(*Not including some independent groups).

PENTECOST

19 CHURCHES.
350 CHRISTIANS.
140 BEING INSTRUCTED.

MAEWO

4 CHURCHES.
135 CHRISTIANS.
45 UNDER INSTRUCTION.

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SUNDAY, JULY 2nd, 1944