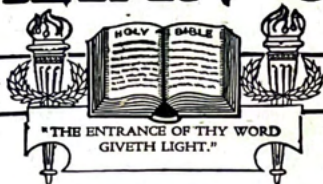


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Not Separated by a Wedge

LIGHTNING reaching down from storm-clouds, like a hand with a flashing sword, strikes a giant eucalyptus tree, shattering it into fragments. A raindrop hanging upon a blade of grass is, according to F. W. Robertson, connected with the power that shattered the tree, for each drop of water is charged with electricity. The force in lightning which smashes the tree is the electricity that is found in each raindrop. If there were no electricity in a drop of water the universe would be different in nature from what it now is; and we might suggest then that lightning would not destroy a tree.

THERE is a connection between a rain-drop that sparkles in the light and a blinding flash of lightning. If a scientist spent time examining a drop of water to find out how electricity acts, some may laugh, and say, "Why not study lightning?" Yet to come to understand the nature of electricity in a drop of water is to learn how it will behave in flashes of lightning.

The consequences of man's rebellion from God's will may be seen in a divided world in which the blasting block-buster brings destruction to cities and terror to human hearts. That same sin of human rebellion from the divine will divides the church, and brings bitterness and sorrow to our hearts. Like electricity, sin reveals itself in different ways.

Many are able to see now that the tragedy of war has its origin in man's neglect of God's commandments; for in a world-war the sin is displayed on a terrifying scale; man's rebellion is painted clearly on the large canvas that depicts man's inhumanity to man. To the task of securing world-unity, many are ready to put their hands. To gain social security for all, they will sacrifice and serve with admirable courage. To the degree they see that world division and war are due to rebellion from God, to that extent only are they likely to succeed.

TO overcome the sin of human rebellion in any sphere of life is to be working to some purpose and to be serving in a worthwhile task. Those who speak lightly of the efforts of those who are laboring to bring men and women back to the commands of God err, for they fail to understand that such service is of vital importance. To bring



Brush Run Chapel, where Thomas Campbell preached, and the Christian Association formed itself into a church of Christ on May 4, 1811.

unity into the world and into the church there is only one road to follow and that is the way back to God.

IF unity and peace are to be brought to this world, it will be only when the church is united. Without the unity of the church, the world cannot be saved. That unity cannot be enjoyed until the sin of rebellion is banished from the church. Only when each one in the church will follow the Lord, and say, "Not my will, but thine be done," shall we find the spirit of unity drawing all into the inner fellowship of the body of Christ.

•To speak of securing unity apart from this return to the will of God and the commands of the Lord Jesus Christ is to reveal either shallow thinking on the problem or a disregard of truth. The "plea" for Christian unity and the "plan" that urges men back to God through Christ cannot be separated: for we cannot get Christian unity unless "men go back completely to their Lord."

From its beginning the Restoration Movement has taught such facts. Some have sought to drive a wedge between the "plea" and the "plan" for unity. We might just as well try to separate the "form" of a dish from the "material" making up the dish. While we may think of the "form" and the "matter" of the dish as separate ideas; yet in actual fact they are inseparable: as far as the dish is concerned one cannot exist apart from the other. Just so the Restoration Movement's "plea" and the "plan" for Christian unity are one.

WE used to hear some claiming that while Thomas Campbell made the "plea" for Christian unity, Alexander Campbell, the son, introduced the "plan" for unity. Those who were ignorant of the facts fell easy victims to that snare of oratory. Those who have followed through past months our studies based on Thomas Campbell's "Declaration and Address" will know that the father urged, as sincerely as his son Alexander, the need of seeking Christian unity by obedience to the will of Christ as it is revealed in the scriptures. The aim of Thomas Campbell in giving his address on unity was "to prepare the way for a permanent scriptural unity amongst Christians, by calling up to their considerations fundamental truths, directing their attention to first principles, clearing the way before them by removing the stumbling blocks—the rubbish of ages which has been thrown upon it, and fencing it on each side, that in advancing towards the desired object, they may not miss the way through mistake or inadvertency."

Again he said, "We dare neither assume, nor purpose, the true indefinite distinction between essentials and non-essentials

(Continued on page 299.)



With Christ in the Vessel

David Hammer, of
South Australia, writes
a message of comfort
based on the words of
Jesus, "Let us pass
over unto the other
side" (Mark 4: 35).

WHEN Peter Barlow arrived at the mission station, he looked just what you would call a "drowned rat." Everything had gone wrong on the trip across from the other island!

Soon after they had set out to cross, steering by the stars, a mist had hidden them from view, and also made it impossible to see any land. The native boat-crew captain had become uncertain of his direction, and refused to steer the boat! When Peter persuaded him to go back to his job, he had had to sit with him at the stern of the launch, trying to gauge their direction from the wind. The sea had risen to an alarming extent, and each wave washed over the bows, and deposited a large amount of sea-water in the open cock-pit. Only by dint of continual baling had they been able to keep afloat. Added to this, the buffeting of the sea had caused the rudder to become loose, and in the darkness, with such a sea running, they had been unable to see just how serious their new danger was!

"And this," said Peter, at breakfast afterwards, "is what happens to a mission launch on a gospel trip! Yet when a couple of natives cross with a cargo of fire-water, they have a dead calm."

Of course, Peter was forgetting that a number of other boats crossing that same stretch of water hadn't had a dead calm. Some of them hadn't even been preserved, as his boat had been. There are some unpleasant stories of lost boats and crews on that same crossing.

But Peter (possibly because he was tired after a difficult all-night trip) had voiced what to many is a real difficulty. He was on the Lord's work. In a sense, Christ was with them on the boat! Should not that trip have been the most pleasantly calm of any they had undertaken?

Life Isn't Plain Sailing

When Jesus called his disciples into a boat to cross over the sea of Galilee, he was with them in the ship, in a very real sense. But even with Christ in the vessel, it wasn't just plain sailing. A fierce storm arose, and the

ship seemed to be in danger of sinking. Christ was with them, but they still had to face the storm on the lake.

Many people have found it their experience on the sea of life that the same holds true. Life isn't always a smooth trip or a pleasant voyage. It often proves a very hazardous undertaking, even for those who take Christ with them!

A young man who had been most regular in Bible school attendance became a Christian. He revelled in his new-found faith. When he went to work later, he launched out bravely, determined to take Christ with him. But he found that being a Christian wasn't easy where he went to work. He met the storms. To-day he never comes near the church. Why didn't someone warn him of the storms

God Doesn't Always Do What We Want

The disciples on the boat found themselves in difficulty. Naturally their thoughts turned towards their Master, lying asleep in that tossing craft. What did they expect him to do? They could have had no thought of Jesus doing what he actually did, bringing the wind and sea to a perfect calm, or they would not have been so amazed afterwards. No, they wanted him to help them in their frantic struggle against the elements. They wanted to set him baling out water or pulling on an oar. They felt that in such a time his very peacefulness was an affront to their frenzied activity. So they woke him up and cried, "Master, don't you care?"

How many people there are to-day, storm-tossed and worried, who pray for God to do what they have planned for him to do. And they pray unanswered prayers. And how many there are who to-day are crying in anguish, "Master, don't you care?" A lady whose son was killed in air operations during this war said, "He was such a good boy. He and I have both tried to serve God. Why, then, should he be taken, and many a worse boy left behind?"

In these days of storm it is well to remember that God doesn't do what we plan. But we should not think that he does not care. For he works in his own way, and out of disaster and defeat, he can bring real victory. Jesus didn't do what the disciples wanted. He went beyond their highest flights of thought and produced a great calm. And how shall we know, in the short span of our lives, just what God will do with our hardships and tears?

A Great Calm

The last episode of the story is set amidst a great calm. On that journey the disciples suffered many things, some of them needlessly. They suffered discomfort. But why shouldn't they, when the wind blew sea-water upon them? They suffered as a result of their own doubts and fears, and their inability to realise just what Christ could do for them. But when he took charge of the ship he brought them to the shore in a great calm.

One of the finest stories from this war concerns a poor woman, one of thousands who have suffered so severely as a result of air-raids. She was lying injured in a hospital in Surrey. "Minister," she said to the one who was visiting her, "I've lost everything. I've lost my man, I've lost my bits of sticks, I've lost my home—I've lost everything!" Then after a thoughtful pause she went on, "No, I've told you a lie." She struggled until she could produce from under her pillow a well-thumbed Bible. "I told you a lie," she said, "I haven't lost everything. I've still got this to begin a new home with." "And there was a great calm."

"Begone unbelief, my Saviour is near,
And for my relief will surely appear;
By prayer let me wrestle, and he will perform,
With Christ in the vessel I smile at the storm."



I Have a Saviour

I HAVE a Saviour, so wondrous to me,
Guarding and guiding me so tenderly,
His love unbounded, his mercy is free,
This wonderful Saviour, divine.

Refrain

Oh, this Saviour of mine,
Oh! his wonderful love divine,
There's no joy near so sweet,
There's no bliss so complete.



I have a Saviour, he's mighty to save;
There on the cruel cross his life he gave

To save me from sinking 'neath sin's
angry wave;
This dear loving Saviour of mine.

I have a Saviour who leadeth the
way,
His presence is near me by night
and day;
My hand in his hand for ever will
stay,
This wonderful Saviour of mine.

I have a Saviour, my burden he bears,
Each joy and heart-ache he tenderly
shares,
His word my guidance, it tells me he
cares,
This dear loving Saviour of mine.

—Beryl Carter, Horsham, Vic.

he would have to face—even with Christ on the vessel.

Christ never promised an easy way of life for any follower! Someone has said, "The emblem of Christianity is not a cushion, but a cross." Jesus himself said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me." These are words pregnant with the muttering of approaching storms! The sea begins to move, as if uneasy. A thin wind wanders aimlessly across the waters, waiting for the storm. But remember, Christ is on the vessel.

The Living Church

at Worship



Devotional Theme.—The Habit of Worship.

Leader.—

"Great and marvellous are thy works,
O Lord God the Almighty;
Righteous and true are thy ways,
Thou King of the ages.

Who shall not fear, O Lord, and glorify thy name?

For thou art holy;
For all nations shall come and worship before thee;

For thy righteous acts have been made manifest." (Rev. 15: 3, 4.)

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnal, 206, "Praise the Lord—ye heavens, adore him."

Prayer.—"Almighty and most merciful Father, in whom we live and move and have our being, to whose tender compassion we owe our safety in days past, together with all the comforts of this present life, and the hopes of that which is to come, we praise thee, O God, our Creator; unto thee do we give thanks, O God, our exceeding joy, who daily pourest thy benefits upon us. Grant, we beseech thee, that Jesus our Lord, the hope of glory, may be formed in us, in all humility, meekness, patience, contentedness, and absolute surrender of our souls and bodies to thy holy will and pleasure. Leave us not, nor forsake us, O Father, but conduct us safe through all changes of our condition here, in an unchangeable love to thee, and in holy tranquillity of mind in thy love to us, till we come to dwell with thee, and rejoice in thee for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." (Bishop Simon Patrick, A.D. 1626.)

Bible Reading.—Psalm 95: 1-7.

Responsive Reading.—No. 22, Churches of Christ Hymnal.

Solo.

Devotional Talk—

THE HABIT OF WORSHIP

THE habit of worship is probably the most basic means of transforming character. It gives us a sense of the presence of God and brings us into harmony with the Infinite.

Habits are acquired and become "second nature"; some are good and some bad. Most of us have had experience in trying to break the latter and have found it difficult; but psychologists tell us the way to break any undesirable habit is to form a counter-habit, and the more positive the counter-habit the better.

When we really worship we gain a keener insight into God's will and many undesirable habits fade before the increased loyalty resulting from sincere worship.

The words of the Psalmist, "My heart and my soul cry out for the living God," and those of Job, "Oh, that I knew where I might find him," are echoed in many hearts to-day. All have need of worship, but many fail to acquire the habit.

In worship we become humble and say with the Psalmist, "O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth." "What is man that thou art mindful of him, and the son of man that thou visitest him?" We ask for forgiveness of our sins and pray, "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

We are comforted when in sorrow, and our joys are increased. We dedicate ourselves to be used of God in His service. Worship means all of these and more. Worship is communion with God and Christ our Saviour.

The habit of worship, both private and public, must be diligently practised if we are

to constantly experience this communion, this oneness with God.

Through worship we are given spiritual strength, inward peace and physical relaxation.

"We kneel, and all about us seems to lower;
We rise, and all the distant and the near
Stands forth in sunny outline, brave and clear;

We kneel how weak; we rise how full of power!"

Prayer.—"O God, who hast promised that they who endure to the end shall be saved, give us grace to persevere in thy holy service all our days, that we may reach the end of our faith, even the salvation of our soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnal, No. 40, "O worship the King."

Prayer for Nation.

Business.

Home Mission Notes.

Overseas Letter.

Address, "The Underground Churches of Europe."

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnal, No. 493, "Oh, for a faith that will not shrink."

The devotional theme for the year 1944-45 is "The Living Church at Worship."

MRS. WATERMAN

IT is unique in our women's work for an immediate past president to go to the mission field as a missionary.

Mrs. Waterman, after a very successful term of office as president for Victoria (where she travelled extensively visiting and speaking), is again taking up the work she had to relinquish for several years. There have been many functions in her honor, but notably the large farewell by the women at the Gardiner church on June 7.

VICTORIA

ON Tuesday, May 16, a very pleasant afternoon was spent in the home of Mrs. McCann, where the past presidents and the Executive Committee met to honor Mrs. Waterman. Gifts of linen, etc., were presented to her.

124 women were present at the monthly Executive Council meeting held on June 2. Visitors welcomed were Mesdames Barton and D. Stephens, of Tasmania; and Mrs. Morgan, of Box Hill; Mrs. Roffey, of South Yarra; and Miss Clipstone.

Mrs. J. Turner was appointed to the Executive Committee for the remainder of the conference year in place of Mrs. Waterman.

After a brief message from Mrs. Waterman, Miss Mary Clipstone brought an inspiring message based on Isaiah 46.

To close the meeting, Mrs. Brough led in a prayer of dedication for the outgoing missionaries.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

THE Sisters' Auxillary met at Grote-st. on Thursday, June 1, for monthly meeting. This afternoon was set aside for overseas work, and Mrs. Nankivell presided. Miss Vawser was

heartily welcomed, and addressed the gathering, telling of her work in India. At the close she rendered a solo which was much enjoyed. A collection of £1/18/10 was handed to Mrs. Nankivell for overseas work.

At the business session Mrs. Tippett asked that a letter of protest be sent to Mr. Forde (Minister for the Army) against the decision to send beer to the troops in New Guinea.

Mrs. Rootes reported that Mrs. Reed (Goolwa church) had received the home-call. A letter was sent to the bereaved ones.

NEW SOUTH WALES

THERE was an increased attendance at the meeting of the Women's Auxillary Conference on June 2 to hear an address on the "Children's Library Movement."

Short reports were given by the F.M. superintendent and a representative of the Women's Inter-church Council.

THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

A FEW years ago the Congregational Christian Women's Fellowship of Illinois, U.S.A., distributed among its members a four-page leaflet named "My Daily Purpose." On the back was a list of books for developing the devotional life, and on the inner pages the following statements:—

MY RELIGIOUS LIFE.

For the strengthening of my spiritual life,
I Will Try To—

Attend church regularly and participate as far as I can in the week-day meetings and activities.

Be a helpful member of the woman's society.

Give methodically, after prayerful consideration.

Read daily in the Bible, or in some book of devotions.

Include books of missionary endeavor, church history, biographies of Christian leaders, or books of religious poems, among my general reading.

Pray in the morning, considering the activities of the day before me, and waiting in silent meditation that I may have inward guidance.

Pray in the evening, purifying my heart in humility, and giving thanks for the beauty and blessings of the day.

Cultivate Christian friendships, and join with any group which may help me in these purposes.

Personal Goals

I will set these goals before me and seek to attain them:—

A consciousness of the presence of God.

A readiness to forgive all personal injuries.

An acceptance of defeat with humility and without complaint.

An acceptance of my own limitations, together with a determination to use diligently those talents which have been given me.

The cultivation of courage and determination with which to face my problems.

The acceptance of the hard task presented to me.

A mind sensitive to his voice, eyes to behold beauty, and a heart to love all whom I meet according as I am permitted to know them.

Never wavering faith in the omnipotence, the nearness, and the fatherly love of God for me, and for all mankind.

Notes on Current Topics

The Gospel of Forgiveness

A FEW days ago I heard an American chaplain, back from an island battle area, tell of the direct and simple gospel message which he found most effective with the soldiers in the front line. It was not an address on ethical questions or social reconstruction which appealed to men face to face with eternity. It was the good news of salvation through a Saviour who died for the sin of the world. Primarily that—not first Christ's incomparable moral teaching, or even his perfect example, but his power and willingness to forgive sin were the necessary and most appealing truths for men in the hour of peril and facing immediate death. Surely the chaplain was right as he urged the church to make the gospel of our salvation its supreme message. Of course, men accepting Christ must live in accord with his will. Of course, there are social implications of the gospel. But first come redemption and forgiveness.

Recognising God

Dr. Henry Sloan Coffin, Principal of Union Theological Seminary and Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of America, recently stated that there was a turning among intellectuals to a more spiritual view of life, as could be seen in the writings of Walter Lippmann. A report of an address delivered in Britain by Dr. Coffin summarises a striking portion of it in three sentences: "The churches had a chance to preach 'the everlasting gospel' with a new relevance. Lincoln had said, 'Under God there shall be government of the people, by the people, and for the people.' The churches' job was to see that the first two words were not forgotten, otherwise democracy would fall as lamentably as totalitarianism itself." This is well expressed. To omit, whether from expression or intention, the dependence of government and people upon God, the Creator and Sustainer of all, will be fatal. Blessing and security on earth, as well as eternal salvation, are of the Lord.



Our Young People

W. R. Hibbert

SATURDAY EVENINGS

THE Victorian Young People's Department believes that the Saturday evening mood of young people can be directed and made to promote brotherhood interests. A rendezvous, North Richmond school hall, was arranged and young people invited to enjoy pleasant Saturday evenings. There was a change of programme every 20 minutes. The evenings were closed with a spiritual truth pictorially illustrated.

Each evening 200 remained for supper. An adult visitor, observing the happy fellowship, remarked, "A brotherhood is being welded here and now." During June 3 session Victorian youth demonstrated their esteem for Mrs. G. Waterman, and gave assurance that the friendship forged in young people's camps would continue during her sojourn in the New Hebrides.

Lessons in Prayer

Remarkable gatherings for prayer were held in many places on the opening of the allied invasion. A sense of dependence upon divine help and a belief in the righteousness of our cause have been manifested. Some of our generals have set a worthy example. The order-of-the-day issued by General Eisenhower to every member of the allied expeditionary forces closed with the words: "Let us all beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking."

When the invasion forces were setting out, President Roosevelt, it is reported, wrote a prayer, which included the following sentences: "O Lord, give us faith in thee, faith in our sons, faith in each other, faith in our united crusade. . . . 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 world unity that will spell sure peace."

King George's solemn call of his people to prayer and dedication was very beautiful and gave lessons in prayer to us all. The following splendid words deserve to be remembered:

"We are not unmindful of our own shortcomings, past and present.

"We shall not ask that God may do our will, but that we may be enabled to do the will of God, and we dare believe that God has used our nation and Empire as an instrument for fulfilling his purpose.

"If, from every place of worship, from the home, from the factory, from men and women of all ages and many races and occupations, our intercessions arise, then, please God, both now and in a future not remote, the predictions of the ancient psalm may be fulfilled: 'The Lord will give strength unto his people. The Lord will give his people the blessing of peace.'"

A. R. Main

SENIOR PARTNERS CONFER WITH JUNIOR PARTNERS

THE pleasant Saturday evenings provided a period when seniors were asked to confer with juniors who comprised the audience. The method used was to invite a guest—teacher, preacher, doctor or business man—and ask him to deal tersely and frankly with the questions that had been prepared by the junior partners.

This period proved not only popular but the most profitable. The following samples of questions will indicate the variety of youth's interests and concerns: (1) Do you believe in good luck? (2) Has the care of the body anything to do with religion? (3) What keeps the blood stream of the nation healthy? (4) Do cigarettes or cocktails affect the blood stream? (5) Why did you choose to be a doctor? (6) Should a boy friend, not earning money, pay the girl friend's fare? (7) How much should we spend on amusements? (8) Are the girls of to-day too frivolous? (9) Has Sunday anything to do with an individual or a nation's success?

VACATION CAMP

FORTY girls, under the auspices of the Victorian Good Companions' Auxillary, were encamped at Tecoma during recent school holidays. Mrs. D. Kent and Miss R. Roberts, the camp leaders, were supported by Miss D. Reynolds and Miss J. Fowler. Miss Dorothy Clark and Miss Beth Hare served as leaders for games and leisure time activities. Mesdames E. Trew and I. Bealand were in charge of the meals. Dr. W. A. Kemp and C. L.

Lang contributed to the programme. The youth leader inspected the camp, and was heartened by this healthy piece of Christian work under the direction of a devoted group of leaders. There is a future for the church that ministers to youth in life situations.

The Home Circle

J. C. F. Pittman

TO-DAY

"LET me no wrong or idle word,
Unthinking say;
Set thou a seal upon my lips—
Just for to-day."

ORIGIN OF PROCRASTINATING

A MINISTER of the gospel determined on one occasion to preach on the text, "Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation." Whilst in his study, thinking, he fell asleep, and dreamed that he was carried into hell, and set down in the midst of a conclave of lost spirits. They were assembled to devise means whereby they might get at the souls of men. One rose and said, "I will go to the earth and tell men that the Bible is all a fable, that it is not divinely appointed of God." "No; that will not do." Another said, "Let me go; I will tell men that there is no God, no Saviour, no heaven, no hell," and at the last words a fiendish smile lighted upon all their countenances. "No, that will not do; we cannot make men believe that." Suddenly one arose and, with a wise mien, like the serpent of old, suggested, "No; I will journey to the world of men and tell them that there is a God, that there is a Saviour, that there is a heaven—yes, and a hell too; but I'll tell them there is no hurry; to-morrow will do, it will be 'even as to-day.'" And they sent him. —"Biblical Treasury."

PERPLEXED BUTCHER

The economical housewife went to the butcher and asked for a tender piece of meat.

Her request was that it should be nice and tender, without bone, gristle or fat. The butcher looked perplexed, then replied, "Madam, I think you had better have an egg."

The Family Altar

TOPIC.—"YE ARE NOT ALL CLEAN"

June 26—1 John 1.

" 27—2 Cor. 6: 14-18; 7: 1.

" 28—Eph. 4: 17-24.

" 29—Eph. 4: 25-32.

" 30—James 4: 1-10.

July 1—John 13: 1-11.

" 2—Isaiah 5: 1-7; John 13: 12-17.

THE incident of our New Testament lesson may be applied spiritually. Judas, though he sat at the table with washed feet, remained impure in heart. Even so, there are many who have submitted to the ordinance who are still in their sins. On the other hand, there are many who have been thoroughly cleansed, as were the apostles, and yet, like them, are slightly soiled by the dust of the road. The former need reconverting; hence the appropriateness of occasional re-baptism. The latter, having been truly "born again" and risen with Christ to walk in newness of life, need not be unduly alarmed, even when, in spite of their efforts to keep pure, they become somewhat soiled upon life's highway, for "if we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

The Australian Christian

Page 292

June 21, 1944

Looking Forward to S.A. Centenary

Chas. Schwab, of South Australia, announces plan for centenary celebrations, moves to help the preachers, and tells of social service activities.

Centenary Celebrations

THOMAS MAGAREY, who was baptised by Thomas Jackson, in New Zealand, came to Adelaide and associated himself with the Scotch Baptists. His desire for a clearer New Testament teaching led to the withdrawal of several members and the erection of a chapel in Franklin-st., which was opened for worship during the first week in January, 1846. The congregation increased and moved into Grote-st. to occupy the first portion of the original building, which was opened on Dec. 14, 1856. A small cause was formed at Willunga in 1847, one at Burra in 1850, and another at Hindmarsh in 1854. Since those pioneer years a great brotherhood has been established throughout the Commonwealth. Grote-st. church plans to make good use of the centenary period in 1946. Conference departments have drafted prospective programmes with a view to capitalising the impetus which the hundredth anniversary will naturally give to the whole of the brotherhood work. Celebrations recommended by last Federal Conference, if not hindered by war conditions, should crown the important event in a very fitting manner during September, 1946.

Temple Days

Since the very successful introduction of Temple Day by Maylands church a few years ago, many of our congregations have been inspired to approach their building debts by way of this excellent method.

Recently, Cottonville and Nallsworth churches gleaned much spiritual and financial uplift by carefully planned and well conducted efforts. It is very pleasing to note the lasting thrill that members are getting as a result of their direct giving promoted by a prayerful approach to, and participation in, a day set aside for a worthy purpose. Temple Days threaten to exterminate the less helpful and more doubtful methods of debt reduction which have flourished among many religious groups.

Home Missions

Last general conference stressed the matter of preachers' salaries, and urged that consideration should be given thereto with a view to increases being made, where necessary, to bring the incomes of men nearer the demands made by the higher cost of living.

The Home Mission Department recently raised the minimum salary of full-time preachers to five pounds fifteen shillings per week. The brotherhood, in an excellent response to the annual appeal, made the above venture possible. Some churches concerned have voluntarily shared the extra strain on committee finance by increasing their subsidies.

The department is now engaged in two more matters calculated to make preachers happier and more effective in their engagements in home mission fields. It is hoped that within a few months all preachers will be assisted by churches and committee in payment of full subscriptions to the Preachers' Provident Fund.

The next objective is to establish a fund to

give financial security to preachers against sickness, accident, unemployment and general disabilities. The scheme is being formulated by a brother of keen business ability, who has in mind the securing of substantial help for preachers needing same in return for moderate subscriptions made by the department, churches and evangelists concerned.

Social Service

Local option polls conducted in some electorates recently revealed the financial strength and aggressiveness of vested interests. Although no ground was gained by the liquor trade, temperance workers have been made aware of the virility and power of their opponents. Propaganda per medium of radio and pamphlet was in quantity far beyond anything attempted by local-optionists. Literature and radio statements designed to show much concern for grape-growers, wine-makers and all taxpayers, flowed with marked regularity

into homes through letter boxes and receiving sets, from those who cannot continue their trade without gaining converts to drink from the ranks of boys and girls. Their efforts to train up the parents in the way they desire the children to go were more vigorous than ever before. Our Social Service Department co-operated very closely with other organisations in the strenuous campaign. The Women's Christian Temperance Union did valiant service, and has received much useful publicity through a very practical demonstration of an understanding of the perils associated with intoxicating liquors. Mrs. W. F. Nankivell, of Unley church, is known State-wide as an effective worker in the interests of Christian citizenship.

An effort to secure another hotel in Whyalla, the growing industrial town on the West Coast, was recently frustrated. Until it was reported that the three hotels operating in the centre were very directly connected with the application for the fourth hotel, some people wondered why the holders did not protest against the request for another licence. There are "wheels within wheels!"

Let's Have Some Clean Fun

Our Tasmanian correspondent, Stanton H. Wilson, of Launceston, reports on the need of raising moral tone of the government's appeal for funds, on loss of apples, and on home mission news.

THE following, written by "The Padre" in one of his regular Saturday articles for the Launceston "Examiner," appeared after Jack Davey visited the city. "History reveals that one of the symptoms of a decaying nation is the looseness of the speech and conduct of its people. Therefore it came as a shock to find that a government department is prepared to arrange public entertainments on behalf of the victory loan whose prominent features are questionable jokes and suggestive actions. The packed audience at the Albert Hall this week was composed to a large extent of family parties looking forward to clean, healthy fun and music. Though the latter were certainly in evidence, they were overshadowed by the efforts of an admittedly gifted comedian to pander to the lowest tastes. One joke he told was below even the broad standards of the smoking room. His closing item with the aid of a comedienne, for whom one may blush even if she does not for herself, was both clever and vulgar. The whole effect was to send one home seeking a hot bath and plenty of soap, and determined to support the loan, not because of, but in spite of, the show." The affair reminds one of Ruskin's word, "Money may cost too much."

Tour of Island

Since last letter the conference president (E. A. Stevens), accompanied by the writer, has completed a 600 mile car tour of the churches in Southern Tasmania. It was not our motive to herald our coming, and ask for large meetings to be arranged. We preferred to go into the various towns to see the work as it usually is, and to appreciate those difficulties which confront our country brethren in the regular conduct of the Lord's work throughout the year. While we addressed several representative gatherings and conferred about the local needs, our general policy was to visit the homes of the brethren. We received cordial welcomes; experienced wonderful fellowship and the kindest of hospitality. On returning to Launceston we presented a State-wide programme for home missions. The committee has accepted this outline and will act upon it in closest co-operation with the churches concerned. Tasmanian fields should

present a great challenge to preachers who hear in the greatest need, the strongest call.

Surplus Beside Starvation

Memories of purple mountains mirrored in the placid waters of the Huon will long remain with us. Frequently these reflections were disturbed by what appeared to be clusters of golden and red water-lilies. On coming closer we found them not to be flowers but fruit—large, unblemished apples! It was a common sight to see lorry-loads of apples dumped on the banks of the river. "The Mercury" (Hobart) of 20/5/44 stated that in Tasmania 3,000,000 cases have been dumped this season. A news item from Chungking of 1/2/44 reported that "one of the world's worst famines is raging in the Szeyp district of South Kwantung Province. . . . 1,000,000 people in this area are already dead, and more will die this spring unless food is shipped."

"Home Mission News"

Under the above title the Home Mission Committee issues monthly a duplicated leaflet to every family in our churches. This bulletin is distributed by agents in each congregation. It contains the latest information concerning our work throughout the State. Widespread appreciation of the idea is being expressed.

Brevities

There are indications that this year's youth offering will show a good increase on the previous years.

Encouraging reports are heard of D. R. Hill's ministry at Devonport. Attendances have greatly improved. Our brother is giving himself untiringly to the work.

Friends of Dr. Geo. Moore will be interested to know that he is slightly improved. Although the doctor is paralysed on the right side, he is able to walk a little with a stick and to use his typewriter. The writer, when in Hobart recently, called on Dr. and Mrs. Moore.

Thomas Hagger is preparing the scripts of the weekly session conducted by churches of Christ over station 7EX each Lord's day evening from 5.45 to 6 p.m. Our brother's able help is much appreciated.

Here and There

Mrs. Waterman and Miss Clipstone are leaving Melbourne for Sydney by the 6.30 p.m. train on Thursday of this week (June 22).

F. T. Saunders reports that several brethren have accepted the suggestion to become "Smiths" and contribute £1 monthly to break the fetters of debt from the College of the Bible. Some have sent amounts to cover till the end of the year, but it is hoped that the goal will be reached earlier than that.

D. F. Denham, of Brisbane, Queensland, died recently at the age of 85 years. From February, 1911, to May, 1915, he was Premier of Queensland. He had wide connections with the business world of his State. For many years he had been associated with Ann-st. church of Christ. During that period he preached for churches as the need arose. In recent years he was linked with the Brisbane Baptist church.

A chaplain, writing of the Australian soldier, said: "We, from our duties, see not only the failings here, but those on the home front. Personally, I should say that most of the preventable unrest is caused by lack of mail from womenfolk at home. One meets men who have not heard from wives or sweethearts for months. One has only to watch fine chaps going to pieces under the strain of silence, to realise that it is just about the best fifth column work possible."

At Caulfield (Bambra-rd.), on June 11, in absence of H. M. Clipstone at Ormond, A. R. Sheehan exhorted the church. At gospel meetings during June, Mr. Clipstone has been giving a series of addresses on the N.T. church. On June 18, Miss Mary Clipstone gave a farewell message to the church. Bible school attendance of 228 was an all-time record. 51 have entered for examinations. L. Virgo, R.A.A.F., was farewelled on June 11, and fellowship has been enjoyed with K. Fountain and others on leave.

The mission at Oakleigh, Vic., has proved a stimulating experience in church life. S. Neighbour preached at both services on June 4. At evening service a lady was baptised and a girl from Bible school, made her confession. Gospel service on June 11 was preceded by a song service led by H. M. Long. Thirteen young people were baptised by S. Neighbour. Tiled baptistry adds to appearance of building, and to sacredness of baptismal services. Lyle Mudge met with church recently while on leave.

At Henley Beach, S.A., Miss Edna Vawser delighted young and old with her message at gospel service on June 4. First youth parade was held the same night, with total of 70 present. Girls' Clubs held first demonstration on June 16. By collection and sale of sweets £5/8/- was raised towards building a new hall. Eddie Miller, who has been home from New Guinea on leave, has returned to duty. Teachers of school bade him Godspeed on June 13. Will Strudwick has been posted back to Victor Harbour. Two teams have been entered in local basketball association.

Dr. A. J. Saunders, after 31 years of educational service as professor of economics in an American college of the University of Madras, is returning soon to Melbourne on retirement. In addition to his regular teaching work, Mr. Saunders has served on a number of University bodies and Government and Municipal Council committees. He has delivered courses of extension lectures in all universities of South India; he has also, for many years, been

a regular contributor to the "Mysore Economic Journal," "The Indian Review" and "The Madras Mail." Mr. Saunders is an old boy of Scotch College, Melbourne. He will be available for some supply work to churches in and around Melbourne. Mr. and Mrs. Saunders plan to make their home in Melbourne.

The three months' forward movement at Maylands, S.A., was completed at end of May with a week of special meetings. Mr. Pike spoke at a young people's meeting on Monday evening, and H. G. Norris for remainder of services which finished on May 28. His message on Christian unity was very fine, and his talk to the Bible school will be long remembered. Two young folk decided for Christ during the month. Attendances at morning and evening services have been very good, and messages of K. Jones much appreciated and helpful. Youth offering was a record, aim of £21 being achieved. Attendances at Bible school during past month have been around 280. New beginners' room should be completed towards end of June. All auxiliaries are accomplishing good work.

At Gardiner chapel, Vic., on Wednesday, June 7, in very inclement weather, but in a warm atmosphere, 300 women of the Mission Bands gathered to pay tribute to and to say farewell to Mrs. Waterman. The president of conference, Mrs. Jeffery, presided over the gathering, and messages were given by Mrs. Withers, H.M. superintendent; Mrs. Pittman on behalf of F.M. Committee; and Mrs. Cleland, convener of Missionary Department. As a token of love and esteem, a cheque for £104 was handed to Mrs. Waterman from the women of Victorian Mission Bands, and flowers to Mrs. Waterman and Miss Clipstone from the Missionary Department. The announcement that Mrs. Waterman was to be the second "living link" of the Victorian Mission Bands was received with much joy on the part of the women and our missionary herself. Musical and elocutionary items were beautifully rendered by Miss Holmes, of Red Hill, and Mrs. Sheehan, of Gardiner. After Mrs. Waterman responded, Miss Ellis commended the two departing missionaries to our Father in prayer. An inspiring meeting was brought to a close with afternoon tea served by Gardiner ladies.

WINTER thrust herself into our midst during the past week. Cold winds and frosts have hindered growth in the gardens. A spirit of bleakness covers the country. Flowers are missing. Blue skies are rare now in these southern parts. Nature's charm has retired for a period. We may dislike this drab season of the year, but we ought to be aware that nature is preparing, during these wintry days, for the time when she will expend great energy. If spring and summer are to be beautiful and bountiful, there must be a period of unseen preparation in winter. I think we need to learn a lesson from the cycle of the seasons. Many of us are foolish enough to act as though we can give out the energy of spring and summer without the preparation of a winter. Why ought we to expect to bear spiritual fruit, if we do not retire quietly, like the Master, and spend a period in fellowship and communion with the Lord? Time, so spent, is not lost; and yet we are loath to use it for that purpose. "Be still," says the Bible, "and know that I am God." In the days when the ancient psalmist wrote, there was not such a hustle in the world as now. If it were necessary to be still before God then, how much more needful is it for us to-day?

Eastern District Conference

THE annual conference of Eastern Districts Conference of Churches of Christ was held at Croydon, Vic., June 10, 11, 12, under presidency of A. H. Pratt, Ringwood. The conference was a period of happy fellowship and inspiration. Delegates and members were present from all churches affiliated with the conference. The theme was "The Church in the Modern World," and in Croydon chapel on Saturday afternoon T. H. Scambler gave a stimulating address on evangelism. At the evening meeting E. L. Williams forcefully addressed the church. The conference sermon was preached by R. L. Williams in the Croydon hall. Approximately 150 assembled to hear the address. The Sisters' Conference was presided over by the president, Mrs. Sandells, and a valued time of inspiration was enjoyed. The speaker, Mrs. Kershaw, gave a beautiful address. Mrs. E. Gill, retiring secretary, was presented with a box of cutlery. A Bible was presented to Mrs. Sandells, retiring president. The session was concluded by a basket tea. The closing session of conference was the united youth rally, held in the Scout Hall on the Monday evening. To a crowded meeting F. Morgan gave a splendid address on youth work. Musical items throughout the conference sessions were given by the Morris brothers, Boronia youth choir, Miss Barnden, Miss A. Scarce, Miss B. Reed and Miss P. Adam. Reports from the churches indicated that progress had been made. A splendid report was given by the secretary of the youth committee, Miss B. Lowen.

Election of officers—Sisters' Conference: President, Mrs. F. Rogers, Montrose; vice-presidents, Mrs. E. Gill, Mrs. Henwood, Blackburn; secretary, Mrs. C. H. J. Wright, Blackburn; treasurer, Miss B. Lowen, Blackburn; superintendent church work, Mrs. R. Wilkie, Mitcham. Election of officers—General Conference: President, A. H. Pratt, Ringwood; vice-president, E. L. Williams, Boronia; secretary, R. J. Sandells, Box Hill; treasurer, F. Rogers, Montrose; auditor, J. Maguire, Boronia; pianist, Miss B. Lowen, Blackburn; song-leader, Mr. Jordan, Boronia.

Election of officers of youth committee—Messrs. T. Legg, Fisher, Wright, Charles, Finger, Wilkie, Dellar, Finger. Sisters B. Lowen (secretary), Priddle, J. McGregor, Pratt.

The next conference is to be held at Ringwood, King's Birthday week-end, 1945.

From Week to Week

DOROTHY SAYERS, in her presentation of "The Man Born to be King," shows in various details of the narrative of the story how closely she followed the Greek New Testament. Any scholar aiming to present a vivid outline of the ministry of John the Baptist could not fail to show that John plunged the converts of his preaching beneath the waters of Jordan. John's baptism was a declaration of the candidate's change of mind. Once it was necessary for our preachers and evangelists to spend a great deal of time trying to convince people that baptism means dipping or immersing. While there is still much ignorance on this subject, yet there is a growing willingness to admit that those who were baptised by the apostles were immersed in water.

SOME reporters do not seem to be aware that news columns are for reports of what has taken place and not for the announcement of future events. It is our desire to do all in our power to help churches in their work, and sometimes we are forced, by some reporter, into a dilemma. In our anxiety to help we have broken our rule at times. We ask reporters not to ask too much of us. If announcements of future meetings are desired, these may be made in the advertising columns.

News of the Churches

Tasmania

Launceston (Margaret-st.).—Bible school has given £10 to aboriginal mission, and Y.P.S.C.E. has donated £1/10/- to same fund. On evening of May 28, a special offering for Launceston General Hospital amounted to £4/8/-. Bible school continues to grow. Mrs. A. Plummer has become a teacher. Carl Annear has been home on leave, and enjoyed fellowship with church. On June 11 Mrs. R. Maxfield was welcomed on transfer from Camberwell. Mrs. Libby is improving in health, but Mrs. J. Gibson has had another bad turn.

New South Wales

Hornaby.—Attendances are maintained. A library recently opened in connection with Bible school and C.E. is much appreciated. Generous donations of books were received from members.

Petersham.—All meetings are growing in attendance and interest. On evening of June 11 E. C. Hinrichsen gave a striking address. All departments of church are making progress. A C.E. Society has been formed. V. B. Morris has been appointed Bible school superintendent, and new teachers have been enrolled.

Wollongong.—Eight of those reported as immersed have now been received into fellowship. Mr. Carter, of H.M. Committee, spoke at all meetings on June 11, and at Keiraville in afternoon six girls made their confession. They were pupils of Mrs. Middlemass, who teaches in an undenominational Sunday school held nearby. In evening a girl was baptised.

Bexley North.—Good attendances at gospel meetings include group of teen-age young people. A quartette of girls from Rockdale assisted recently. Visitors have enjoyed fellowship. Owing to difficulty in obtaining timber the new building has been delayed, but completion is in sight. Mrs. Taylor is improving after accident. L. C. Yelds has been appointed church secretary.

ATTRACTED BY ADDRESSES

PEOPLE IMPRESSED BY MESSAGES; GROWING ENDEAVOR SOCIETY

GILGANDRA.—Services are very well attended. People outside the church are attracted by Mr. Retchford's excellent addresses. Junior Endeavor is progressing under leadership of Mrs. Retchford; increase of over 25 during past few months. The "gospel fishermen," F. Ede and C. Denner gave an address to Senior Endeavor on their work in outback areas. Alvin Alderman recently made his confession and was baptised. Church secretary A. Butler is in hospital recovering from operation.

Albury.—Mother's Day was celebrated with good services. J.C.E. distributed flowers to those attending, also visited public and private hospitals and distributed flowers to patients and nurses. Mothers took part in evening service. A combined communion service was held in Baptist chapel on morning of May 21. Mr. Edwards gave the address. Bible school anniversary was held on May 21. The children sang very nicely. Mr. Storey, welfare officer, at afternoon service kept the children interested. Mr. Edwards illustrated his address at night. Mrs. Chalker, a visitor, rendered a beautiful solo. The children were given a tea the following night, and at public meeting prizes were distributed. There have

been three confessions and two baptisms. Fellowship with members of Services is still enjoyed. Services on June 11 were well attended, and a delightful solo was rendered by Mrs. A. Tregloan, from Hamilton, N.S.W. It was pleasing to see Joyce Kear, who has recovered after a major operation.

Lane Cove.—Good work is being done by Mrs. Leggett in training of young people's choir which renders excellent service each Lord's day evening. Ray Patterson sang an appreciated solo on June 11. There was one decision for Christ on each of the Lord's day evenings, June 4 and 11. H. J. Patterson preaching. Mrs. C. Rush, who has been ill, is making some improvement. Miss Jean Saxby is very ill, and Mrs. Lever is not able to leave her bed. Boys' and girls' clubs are serving a useful purpose. The church in conjunction with the college board provided a car for preacher's use in visitation. All are pleased to have C. Saxby, the secretary, back after his sojourn in the country.

Queensland

Monkland.—On June 6 the J.C.E. held a special service in view of opening of second front. School picnic on June 12 proved most successful.

Gympie.—Good services have been held recently, there being several men home on leave. There has been an increase in scholars for school. On June 7 the church was represented at morning civic service, and evening united church service for second front. A. J. Fisher gave a lecture on "Visual Education" to united S.S. teachers' training class. On June 11 intercessory services were conducted, and at 3 p.m. A. J. Fisher addressed Methodist S.S. anniversary.

Maryborough.—There were good average attendances on May 28 and June 4. There was excellent attendance at Urraween on June 4. H. J. Wiltshire gave an inspiring message. A farewell social was tendered to Jack Wiltshire, who has returned to Brisbane; he was highly esteemed. Sickness is prevalent. The church has enjoyed fellowship with a number of men in the Services. Members were happy to make acquaintance of Jack Lake, from Bankstown, N.S.W. During last month four new scholars were added to roll. Ladies' Guild donated another £5 to funds of church.

Annerley.—On May 14, Mother's Day, meetings were well attended. Bible school children sang special hymns, and mothers were presented with posies. Oldest and youngest mothers in meeting were presented with a bouquet. Mr. Ferguson delivered the address. On June 11 Mr. Campbell concluded a series of inspiring and helpful addresses at gospel services. Solos were rendered at these meetings by Mrs. Bates, Miss Halley and Mr. Busche, also an item by girls' club. On June 11 the church had fellowship in morning with J. Rogers, returned from New Guinea. He presided at the Lord's table.

Rockhampton.—A young lady was baptised and received into fellowship on May 7. Sunday afternoon services at Moongan have been resumed with good response. Mr. Vanham visited Endeavor Societies in Mt. Morgan on June 3 and 4 in company with the secretary of district union (H. Hospital). Bible school has added 27 new scholars and two teachers in first half of year. Plenic on May Day was a time of happy fellowship. On Mother's Day the Bible school sponsored a tea for mothers which was well attended, as was the service conducted by Junior C.E. Recent donations to work of Bible school include 24 kinder folding chairs and an organ. Mr. Vanham's radio ministry each Sunday morning is much appreciated.

Western Australia

Perth.—Offering for youth work totalled £91/4/7. At a sale of work, Dorcas Society and Young Women's Fellowship netted £27/1/11 for appeal, "Out of debt by end of 1945." Bible school has won first place in its division of increase and attendance campaign. On morning of June 4, sympathy was extended to Mrs. Cugley and her family in the passing of Mr. Cugley. Douglas Prince was welcomed into membership by faith and baptism.



The Chapel at Perth.

J. K. Robinson paid a tribute to work of Y.M.C.A. At 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Thrum rendered a solo. The preacher was Mr. Robinson. Three scholars from Bible school accepted Christ. On June 8 the Young Women's Fellowship held a "bring and buy" afternoon to help Norseman mission. On morning of June 11 Miss Livingstone was welcomed into membership by letter from the church at Harvey. Visitors included J. R. Jobson (Wollongong, N.S.W.) and Fergus Anderson (Melbourne). A period of intercession was held on behalf of the nation. A helpful message was given by L. C. Peacock. In afternoon young people held a rally, followed by tea. At 7.30 p.m. solos were rendered by Mrs. Watson and V. Conigrave. A large number of young people presented, in a series of tableaux, "The Cause that can Never be Lost." J. K. Robinson was preacher.

Cottesloe.—Meetings maintain a good average. All auxiliaries are functioning well. Miss Gaisford has returned to Middle Park, Vic., after three months here. Other recent visitors have included Ron Holmes (Red Hill, Vic.), Mr. Shearn, Y.M.C.A. officer (Box Hill, Vic.), F. Lewis (U.S. Navy). On May 27, C.E. anniversaries were successful, speakers at junior and Y.P. rallies being C. H. Hunt and A. A. McRoberts. On May 28 Barbara Bolton was baptised and received into fellowship. On June 4 Chaplain Fewster spoke in morning and H. Vawser at night, while Mr. Steele and several young people attended week-end youth convention at Harvey.

South Australia

Adelaide (Grote-st.).—At close of W. Beiler's gospel message on June 11, two young ladies (sisters) confessed Christ. They were baptised at midweek prayer meeting, and received into fellowship on June 18. A. Gard is able to meet with the church again after a period of sickness. Several other members are away sick. On June 18 W. Beiler spoke at both

The Australian Christian

services. Morning service on May 21 was broadcast. W. Beiler speaking. Gordon James, home on leave, had fellowship with church. There were good meetings on June 4, when W. Beiler gave excellent addresses. A good number of Service men have had fellowship with the church, also Mr. Woodward, secretary of church at Chatswood, N.S.W. R. Cotton, from Mile End, and Mr. Nelson, from Nailsworth, were received by letter. Ross Manning (elder), on the advice of his doctor, has asked to be relieved of all church activities. All sincerely trust his health will soon improve to permit him to take part in the work so dear to him. On June 11 Mr. Beiler addressed the church and preached at night.

Prospect.—Services on June 11 were addressed by A. E. Brown. There were good attendances. Fellowship was enjoyed with visitors and Geoff. Baker (Air Force) home on leave from Middle East. At close of evening service members of P.B.P. and K.S.P. met to bid farewell to A. Fax, who has been called up. New Testament and Moffat's translation were presented. P.O. Brian (England) reports he is in good health. Church sympathises with Mr. and Mrs. Catheray in loss of her mother. All auxiliaries are in good spirit.

Queenstown.—A young people's service was held on May 21, when Mr. Brooker gave the address and choir was composed of young people. Messrs. Brooker, Foote, Hall and Purdie exhorted church during month and Mr. Brooker preached the gospel. The deaconesses held an all-day cleaning bee inside and around the chapel with a good response. Alex. and Jim Quilliam had fellowship with church while on leave, and both took part in morning service on June 4. Keith Hopkins and Miss L. McMahon were married in chapel on May 23. Mr. Parker and Mr. Holmes are progressing favorably following serious operations.

Murray Bridge.—After wedding in chapel on June 1 William Walmsley and Joan Easther left to reside in Merbein, Vic. N. G. Noble officiated. Port Pirie Y.P.S.C.E. exchange programme was enjoyed on June 13. At close, wedding gifts were presented Miss Laurel Harper from church and auxiliaries for vocal, instrumental, teaching, and leadership services over last six years, three as Bible teacher in State infant school. On June 15 Miss E. Vawser, from India, addressed an appreciative audience. A. R. Coote and Mrs. E. Allen are recovering from serious operations. Norman Page (R.A.A.F.) cables safety throughout invasion flights. Miss Gwen Jones is posted amongst W.A.A.A.F.

Forestville.—Twenty-third anniversary of Bible school has been celebrated. On May 28 Dr. P. S. Messent spoke in morning at a teachers' recognition service. In afternoon F. Cornelius addressed a large gathering of children and adults. D. Hammer gave evening gospel message. On June 3 a school concert was held. On June 4 A. A. Anderson was morning speaker. Mr. Hammer addressed afternoon gathering, and gospel address in evening was given by P. R. Baker. Anniversary tea was held on June 10, followed by a social evening for teachers and senior scholars. Singing by school and choir was conducted throughout by the superintendent, Geo. Clarke.

Berri-Winkie.—On May 28 church anniversary services were held at Berri. Morning and evening services were combined with Winkie. Mr. Johnson was speaker at both meetings. No special offering was taken, as members were each contributing 6d. weekly towards debt reduction fund. In morning Mrs. Hughes sang a solo, and at night Mrs. Johnson sang a solo and Mesdames Chapple and Heinemann a duet. A number of visitors were present during day. On Monday evening a social was held, and a collection taken for piano fund. A youth group has been formed at Berri, with Miss Gwen Clarke secretary. Interest and attendance are maintained in meetings of C.E. at Winkie. Harold Clarke addressed church on morning of June 11 at Winkie.

York.—Mother's Day was observed on May 14. Mr. Rootes gave an appropriate evening sermon. A duet was rendered by Mrs. Bennett and Mrs. Glastonbury. I.C.E. arranged a tea and social evening for mothers on May 13. Further meetings in connection with church Diamond Jubilee have been held. A father and son evening on May 24 brought together a good company of men and boys. On June 7 a social evening for mothers and daughters was held. The social hall was crowded with women and girls. Supper was served in each instance. Mr. Francis, of Flinders Park church, addressed the church on June 4. Mr. Rootes gave evening address and baptised Allan Harding, S.S. scholar. The church has enjoyed fellowship with A. Young and E. Townley, home on leave. Mrs. R. J. House is seriously ill in hospital.

Moonta.—T. Edwards spoke to good congregations on Mother's Day. D. J. Lawrie addressed church on morning of May 28. At night Mr. Edwards concluded a short series of addresses on the second coming. Messages in song by soloists and others at gospel services are appreciated. An increase in number of Sunday school scholars is an encouraging feature of Bible school work. Five scholars are studying for scripture examinations. Ladies' Guild is doing splendid work. Apart from fortnightly meetings, its members entertain parents and friends of Sunday school scholars at a sunshine afternoon once a month. A united intercessory service was held in town hall on June 11. A committee has been formed to revive Band of Hope meetings in the town. A study of Revelation at midweek prayer meetings is interesting.

Mile End.—During Mr. Webb's absence at York mission, gospel services were conducted by S. E. Riches and C. Schwab. Their messages were much appreciated. Ladies of church hold a monthly Mission Band meeting and a monthly social afternoon. These are splendidly attended and greatly enjoyed. Mr. and Mrs. Webb have been on a week's holiday, services being taken by Messrs. Coin and A. Anderson. F. Green, assistant secretary of Bible school, has gone to north of Australia on service, and W. Green, superintendent of Bible school, has found it necessary to relinquish office. F. Lewis is acting superintendent. On June 4 Miss E. Vawser addressed morning service, which was largely attended. Mr. Webb conducted gospel service. A young man, A. Nancarrow, was received into fellowship by letter of transfer from Balaklava. Plans are being made for an intensive campaign lasting three months. Western District C.E. Union has been recommenced with Mr. Webb as president.

Victoria

Warragul.—Young people have formed a club under leadership of Mr. Baker. Prayers and thoughts are with sick members. Two Bible school boys, recently baptised, have been welcomed into fellowship.

FELLOWSHIP TEA

OVER 160 YOUNG PEOPLE AT RALLY

HARTWELL.—Good attendances continue to appreciate C. J. Robinson's messages. On May 28 Eastern Suburbs Youth Fellowship held a rally and tea at which over 160 young people were present. On June 4, Bible class attended combined meeting of Bible classes in district. D. D. Stewart, of South Melbourne, spoke at evening service. On June 11 Bible school was heard over the "Sunday School of the Air" from 3DB. Choir has become a regular feature every Sunday evening. Doris Bond is convalescing after serious accident, and hopes to be back in attendance soon.

Emerald.—On June 10 a car full of local officials journeyed to Croydon for afternoon and evening sessions of Eastern District Conference. The fellowship was thoroughly enjoyed. Interest at both services on June 11 was well maintained.

Colac.—During college vacation A. Thurgood visited homes of members and made contact with many people in the town. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Gladman in the loss of her only child. King's birthday week-end Mr. Thurgood spent an enjoyable time at Sunday school teachers' training sessions organised by Presbyterian church.

Reservoir.—Mr. Grainger spoke at both services on June 11. Miss P. McInnis, kindergarten superintendent, has resumed after illness. Mr. Grainger is conducting a series of morning addresses with daily readings for each day of preceding week. Mrs. Tuttleby was received into fellowship. At gospel service Mr. Strutton spoke on his work in India.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—Services on June 18 were well attended. C. G. Taylor continues to give helpful and encouraging messages. K. W. Barton addressed Bible class on work of churches of Christ in China. D. Turnbull is laid aside through illness, but is slowly improving. The Lord's Supper was taken to his bedside. Mrs. Peterson was received into membership by letter from North Richmond.

Thornbury.—Church celebrated 23rd anniversary on June 4. Many former members were present. E. L. Williams spoke at 11 a.m. and H. Swain at 7 p.m. Choir provided special music at both services. One addition to church since last report. Mid-week fellowship has been studying T. H. Scambler's "Protestantism and Romanism." Annual thankoffering for reduction of debt brought in £100, and debt is now down to £775.

Preston.—A plan for raising finance by direct giving in readiness for erection of a new building has been inaugurated. Miss Beryl Morfiew was married to L. Webster on June 17, Mr. Cambridge officiating. The same evening a concert was held by Bible school, a good programme being appreciated by a crowded audience. Proceeds are for church building fund. J. Searle, Thornbury, gave an overseas mission address at morning service on June 18. Mr. Cambridge preached at night.

Stawell.—On May 26 a farewell social and presentation were given to Lorraine Randall, who has been transferred to Sipton, as a teacher at State school. On June 10 a social afternoon was held at home of Mrs. Blair. Proceeds went to church funds. Mr. Randall's messages have been helpful. Mrs. Evans and her husband, from Brisbane, have had fellowship with the church, also Mrs. Hardy, isolated member. Ladies' Aid is doing good work.

Middle Park.—G. Whiting was speaker on morning of June 11 and D. Stewart conducted gospel service. Mission Band held an enjoyable anniversary service on June 14, when sisters of Prayer Meeting Committee brought inspiring messages. On June 18 Mr. Arnott, of Brighton, exchanged with Mr. Stewart and gave a helpful address. Members were pleased to welcome back Sister M. Gaisford after three month's vacation in W.A. Sister Reynolds continues to progress slowly.

Lillimur.—Happy fellowship was enjoyed with A. A. Hughes, M.L.A., on June 4. To a largely attended meeting, which included visitors from other churches, he delivered an excellent address. It was also the occasion of the oldest foundation member's birthday. H. H. Davis has attained 84 years, with a record of 58 years' membership. E. G. Thompson, district conference president, presided. Fitting reference was made to the outstanding characteristics of the life of Mr. Davis.

North Essendon.—Mr. Bond has planned a revival series of services, covering two months; these commenced June 18. Visiting speakers will help. Vandals broke into chapel three times last week. Although not much damage was done, a lot of time had to be spent in cleaning up. Officers are making plans for church anniversary. Women's Mission Band conducted birthday celebrations on June 13 with 63 ladies present. £2 received will go toward purchase of bungalows for Indian nurses. Mid-week fellowship meetings are helpful.

South Yarra.—Meetings are still on the upgrade. The church has had fellowship with P.O. E. Wilson and Lieut. R. Turnbull on leave. Monthly paper is sent to all the church's young men in the Forces. For past two months Sunday school has been holding a rally in competition with Prahran. Attendances have increased considerably, 119 being record, and 25 new scholars have been added. Superintendent, secretary, teachers and the visitors, Mrs. Yates and Mr. Meech, are working in splendid co-operation. On June 18, Don and Ray Palmer, Sylvia and Peter Pitts, all from Sunday school, made the good confession.

North Fitzroy.—Attendances are well maintained, R. Enniss delivering fine addresses. Two confessions on May 28, a member of R.A.A.F. and his wife. C. Roach, jun., and his wife have returned after some years in the country. P. Foster addressed morning service on June 4, and R. Enniss preached at night. A youth service was held on evening of June 11, when young people of church took part in scripture readings, and special singing. At close of address by R. Enniss a young man confessed Christ. Women's Mission Band met on June 14; there was an attendance of 32, and an interesting address by Mrs. G. W. Mitchell was appreciated.

Ormond.—At prayer meeting on June 7 J. Ritchie gave the message. At worship service on June 11 H. M. Clipstone, of Bambra-rd., was speaker. At gospel service A. Fergus led the service and A. Thomas gave the address. Meetings were well attended. On June 14 at prayer meeting F. W. Bradley gave the address. June 18 was 19th anniversary and home-coming day. S. R. Baker gave the message to the church. In the "back to Bible school" Mrs. Burch sang a solo and Mrs. Milne and Jean a duet. Mr. Baker gave the message. At gospel service G. J. Andrews, of Surrey Hills, preached. The chapel was well filled at all services. A great day of fellowship was enjoyed. Ladies of church prepared 120 meals for day.

Ascot Vale.—On evening of June 4 a missionary service was held, S.S. scholars and teachers giving tableaux. Credit is due to S.S. superintendent (Mr. Stirling) and teachers for training of scholars. R. Sandells was preacher. Many parents of scholars were present. Mrs. Franklyn, wife of former preacher, has been received into fellowship, also four girls and three young men recently baptised. Attendance on Sundays continues to show marked improvement. Bible study group circle and weekly prayer meeting are growing in attendance. A morning exchange was arranged by Mr. Bensley with Essendon preacher, Mr. Jackel. Evening service was conducted by Colin Burt, of the college. Interest in girls' Good Companions Club is growing, and new members have been received.

Bendigo.—The church regrets the passing of Miss A. Phillips, a faithful member for 42 years. Alan Bartlett has joined the R.A.A.F.; he will be missed by the young people. Mrs. Christie recently celebrated her 87th birthday. Ladies' Auxiliary suitably remembered her. Jack Tommiehl has been transferred to North Richmond. Members sympathise with Mr. Mathieson in his illness. Speakers for two Sundays were Messrs. Reg. Streader, Evelyn, Duus and Rosan,

whose help was appreciated. Mrs. Banninger has gone into the Chalet for treatment. In recent combined Endeavor competitions aggregate marks gained by seniors was 407 and intermediates 309.

Bentleigh.—On May 29 J. Anderson was morning speaker. T. Kenely preached at gospel service. On June 4, church anniversary and temple day, there were special services, many visitors attending. T. R. Morris spoke in morning. L. H. Hollins, M.L.A., addressed young people at youth fellowship tea. He also preached at the gospel service, giving a challenging message to a large gathering. Miss J. Mott and C. Dahl rendered solos. Temple day offering amounted to £12. Joy League is proving a great success. Visiting speakers have brought excellent messages to these young followers of Christ. Bible school work is encouraging. There are record entries for Sunday school examinations. Piano purchased for S.S. is now free of debt.

Cheltenham.—Four heaters have been installed in chapel. Mission Band birthday rally on June 8 was attended by 80 ladies, with visitors from nearby churches. Mrs. Stafford presided and Mrs. E. Jeffery, Sisters' Conference president, gave a devotional address. £10/16/- has been received for Indian nurses' bungalow fund. Bible school reports three new scholars. Protestant Youth Council of Cheltenham churches held a successful rally on June 10, afternoon and evening, when a programme of games, group studies and social fellowship was enjoyed by 60 young people. 22 young people joined in a hike at Fern Tree Gully on King's birthday. C. Cole spoke at evening service on June 18, and afterwards gave an illustrated talk on Sudan Mission work at a united service.

Blackburn.—S.S. anniversary services were well attended, children singing splendidly under leadership of J. E. Payne. J. E. Thomas, C. H. J. Wright, A. White and R. Morris, jr., gave fine addresses. Several children secured markings of 100 per cent. for year. During Mr. Wright's absence on holidays, church appreciated assistance of R. Geyer and Mr. Baird. A representative of Local Option Alliance spoke on morning of June 4, and in evening C. Cole (Sudan United Mission) gave gospel address and Mrs. Cole brought a message in song. At after-church combined service Mr. Cole gave an illustrated lecture on the work of the mission. Mrs. Pettigrove spoke at Ladies' Mission Band, and members contributed gifts for hospital visitation. Church recently enjoyed fellowship with Ray Minahan (R.A.A.F.). Henry Salisbury has been posted north and John Supple to a Victorian station. Gwen Spiker was recently married to Driver Alan James (returned M.E. and N.G.). A kitchen tea was held in her honor, and presentations made on behalf of S.S. and Sunshine Club. A presentation of books from S.S. was made to Misses Edna and Vi. Innes, who have transferred to Surrey Hills.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS AND CLUB LEADERS

The Victorian Temperance Committee again offers prizes for the best essay on "Alcohol." Open to all over 12 years and under 18 years of age. 1000 words limit. Competition closes December, 1944.—E. Nance-Kivell, Supt.

DEATHS

DALE.—On June 8, at a private hospital, Manly, Sydney, N.S.W., Marion Amelia, beloved wife of T. P. Dale, of Beatrice-st., Balgowlah, Manly, Sydney (late Dee Why), and loved mother of Rita (Mrs. Powell), Dorothy (Mrs. Fowler), Clifford, Maurice, A.I.F., and Betty; aged 58 years.

"Safe in the arms of Jesus."

SMITH.—On May 29, at Booleroo, S.A., Edward C., loving father of Rose (Mrs. Nicholls), and Florie, of Booleroo, S.A., and Frank, of Cheltenham, Vic.; aged 91 years.

IN MEMORIAM

ALLISON.—Treasured memory of "Ern," our beloved husband and father, fell asleep June 23, 1943.

We miss your face; we loved your life;
We revere your memory; we follow your example;

We preach your gospel; we fight your fight.
—Inserted by his loving wife and son.

PRESTON.—In loving memory of our dad, called to higher service 21/6/40.

"And with the morn those angel faces smile,
Which I have loved long since and lost a while."

—Inserted by wife and children.

TRABINGER.—In loving memory of my dear loving youngest son, Frederick Glyde Bawden, the loving son of late Andrew and Mrs. Trabinger, who died on June 27, 1941.

United in heaven above with father, brothers and sister Elizabeth. Always in my thoughts and loving memory, never forgotten.

—Inserted by his loving mother H. Trabinger, 79 Arnold-st., Bendigo.

WASHBOURNE.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Gilbert H., loved father of Frank, Mabel, Jean and Dorothy, who passed to higher life on June 24, 1943.

He is safe in the keeping of Jesus,
Away from all sorrow and care;
In the beautiful kingdom of heaven
He is waiting to welcome us there.

COMING EVENTS

JULY 7.—Swanston-st., 2 p.m., Victorian Women's Conference Executive will meet. Leader of devotions, Mrs. E. Gill. Lantern lecture entitled "Europe To-day" to be given by Mr. R. Baker, of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

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June 25—China's Christian Leaders.

July 2—The Church in China—To-day and To-morrow.

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—R. E. Burns, preacher.

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PLEASANT SUNDAY AFTERNOON,

JULY 2, 3 o'clock.

Speaker: Sir Frederic Eggleston (Australia's Minister at Chungking, China).

Subject: "Experiences in China."

Bright Musical Programme.

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EVERY SATURDAY EVENING—8 p.m.

Assembly Hall, Collins Street.

Housing Problem

DISCUSSION AT NORTH FITZROY, VICTORIA

ON June 4, the monthly Pleasant Sunday Afternoon service was held. W. O. Birt, member of the Housing Commission of Victoria, addressed a fine audience on "The Christian Approach to the Housing Problem." In Victoria alone there was a shortage of 70,000 houses, and more than a quarter of a million people were inadequately housed. Housing should provide more than just brick and mortar, and the commission had in its programme the provision of homes, not merely houses; the necessary spiritual, physical, and educational aspects should be provided. The Christian church, whilst attacking the evils of drinking and gambling, had failed to interest itself in the living conditions of the people, and the root of such evils was often to be found in the housing conditions under which so many are living. Greed had been one of the causes of slums, the crowding of people in conditions of living that were detrimental to health and morality. Public interest had now been aroused, and it would be the part of the church, and those in authority, to see that in the future better provision would be made and a proper sense of values of the lives of every citizen manifested. The musical portion was contributed by Mrs. Haig, who delighted the audience with two piano solos, and Miss Betty Francis rendered several songs which were greatly appreciated.

Obituary

Mrs. George Mitchell

ON Thursday, June 8, at the age of 68 years, our sister passed away to be with the Lord. She died suddenly whilst on holiday at Shepparton, Vic. The death of her second son some 18 months ago was a tremendous blow, and it is believed hastened her end. All her life she and her late husband were faithful members of the church in Swanston-st., Melbourne, and regular in attendance. Her life was quiet but full of service, particularly as singer in the choir and helper at Dorcas. Outside the church, too, her gracious spirit and charitable disposition enriched the lives of many. We are poorer because of her departure. A brief service was conducted at the home in West Brunswick by C. B. Nance-Kivell, who also read the service at the graveside at Coburg Cemetery. To all relatives and friends we extend our deep sympathy and thank God for a valuable Christian life.—C. B. N-K.

Mrs. E. L. Ruffles

MRS. ERNESTINE LOUISA RUFFLES went home on May 31, aged 78. Among her last words were, "I am going home." One of her daughters sang to her, and though she had been almost incapable of speech, she joined in "If I love him when I die, he will take me home on high." So she obtained the rest she sought. Her husband predeceased her by eleven months. During a long life they had found their happiness and interests in home and church, inspired by a simple faith and devoted love. Beautiful memory, example and influence remain to their children and grandchildren to be cherished and followed. The unusually large gathering at Lutwyche cemetery on June 2, when H. G. Payne conducted our sister's funeral, was an evidence of the wide circle of loving regard of which she was the centre. A life lived faithfully, a death faced confidently, an eternity to enjoy triumphantly.

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(Continued from front page.)

in matters of revealed truth and duty; firmly persuaded that whatever may be their comparative importance, simply considered, the high obligation of the divine authority revealing, or enjoining them, renders the belief, or performance of them, absolutely essential to us, in so far as we know them."

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Dealing With Blindness

(John 9: 39-41)

WE who have good eye-sight should never
cease to be thankful. Moreover, we should
appreciate the contrast between Christ's atti-
tude and the persistent, pagan attitude towards
blindness. Jesus approached a blind person,
not as a case for recriminating research, but
as an opportunity for doing the works of
God.

For the worst sort of blindness, Jesus has
an heroic challenge. "Ye fools and blind!"
he has to say quite often to arrogant persons
who protest that they can see. The ninth of
John is a record of men who allow religious
forms and traditions to blind them to the need
of freedom and vitality. They allow pride
and bigotry to blind them to any merit out-
side their own set. They try to force and
browbeat others into conformity. Some fear
that much blindness in the church to-day may
cause it to play a miserably negative role in
the present age of urgent opportunity, while
others steal its ethical thrust and even steal
its game.

How daring the word of the Master, that he
is the test and judge as to who are the blind!
Thus also Christ's apostle: "If our gospel be
hid, it is hid to them that are lost: in whom
the god of this world hath blinded the minds
of them."—G. J. Andrews.

THOUGHT

Truth is the root, but human sym-
pathy is the flower of practical life.

—E. H. Chapin.

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The Australian Christian

Page 300

June 21, 1944

No Question

It was a new word for ac-
tion—"Dunkirk in Reverse," but char-
acteristic of to-day.

Business is in reverse. It
used to be: How much can we sell?
Now it is: How much can we prevent
being sold?

Unnecessary buying means
inflation later; and, still later, deflation.

To-day it is *not*: How
much to consume; but, How much to
conserve.

There is no question that
the brotherhood must conserve the

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