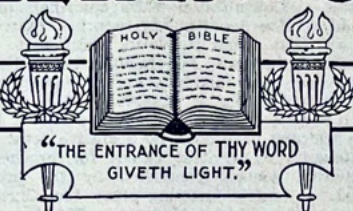


The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

A Journal Representing



Churches of Christ

Registered at the G.P.O., Melbourne,
for transmission by post as a Newspaper.

Posted direct, 10/6 year. Foreign, 14/- year.
Through church agent, 2d. week.

VOL. XLVII, No. 31

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1944

Crusaders of Righteousness

GOOD news was announced by Peter and his companions on the day of Pentecost. Men were called to change their way of living. Instead of acting selfishly from day to day, they were urged to live in harmony with eternal truths.

The rewards of selfishness endure for a moment, but the gifts of a real Christian life are eternal. Christians cannot put off trying to apply the divine way of life until after death; then it will be too late, as the rich man in the story of Lazarus discovered. Now is the time for us to attempt to show to the world how Christians ought to live.

The early Christians made it clear, by unselfish deeds, that they had found a way of life different from the one on which Jews and pagans journeyed. "See how they love one another," the outsiders cried. Like a large family in which all are treated as equals and the needs of all are met, so they lived. Men and women sold their possessions to meet the needs of their poorer brethren. Offerings were collected from distant churches to assist those who had fallen upon hard times because of famine conditions. It was not a show of foolish charity, for the lazy were not encouraged; they were urged to work, otherwise they would starve. When the church lived up to the teachings of the golden rule, then the saints were busy relieving the needy, healing the sick, and championing the rights of the unfortunate. Even although hospitals had a small beginning in pagan centres, it was the concern of Christians for the sick that encouraged the rapid development of that ministry of mercy amongst those suffering from disease. Wherever the church goes, it shows concern for those sick in soul and body. True missionaries of the ages have been moved by genuine compassion to do all in their power to fight disease. When there was no State to give aid, the church gathered the poor, the sick, and the aged into institutions and sought to minister to them. Whatever may be said against the church of the middle ages, it must be acknowledged that, in so far as the church was true to its divine mission, it championed the cause of the sick, weak and oppressed.

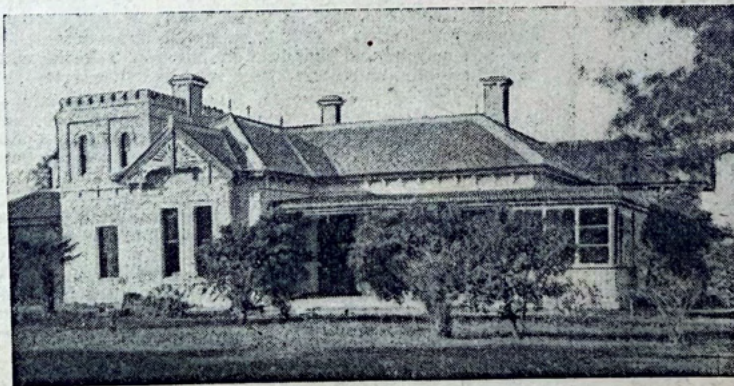
If the church at any period lacked spiritual vitality, then it neglected to resist the social ills of the day. After the Methodist revival of the 18th century, the church throughout England and America found renewed power. From that time men became conscious again of the misfortunes of others.

Then there was concern for children working in mines and factories, for men in the chains of slavery, for the victims of vile prisons, and for the heathen in all lands. The spiritual revival found practical expression in social deeds. The revived church disturbed the comfortable self-satisfaction of an age that exalted what was called "enlightened self interest," a way of life that really encouraged selfishness.

SOME are complaining now that the church has lost concern for those who are victims of social ills. They say that there is little expression of righteous indignation against those who profit out of the slums, the drink traffic, the gambling institutions, the dens of vice, and the terrors of war. There is much apathy in regard to what ought to be done to save the unwanted child, the orphan, the aged poor. Too many cry: "Am I my brother's keeper?" The saying, "It is foolish to whip a dead horse," has point. Spiritual vitality will be applied to social needs if the church is revived again and again, and is full of life. Passionate evangelism keeps the church alive to its high calling, and enables members to see the need of being crusaders of righteousness in a needy social order. New Testament evangelism awakened in men a social conscience. Let evangelism be revived to-day and it will do the same. Perhaps it is not a coincidence that W. H. Clay, who was closely connected with tent mission work, and later was used as a means to strengthen churches by strong evangelistic preaching, should now be calling upon his brethren, as a leader of the Federal Social Service Committee, to apply Christian principles to daily life. Evangelism and social service go together in New Testament Christianity. It is in view of that truth that we have commended the good work of the Social Service Committees

throughout Australia in planning to establish homes for the aged and orphans, hospitals for the sick, and for making efforts to help those in physical need. Their educational campaigns against evils in our midst have assisted to maintain a Christian conscience within the life of the community.

Such service needs the support of Christians, and we are sure that there will be a worthy response to the appeal to be made in many churches on August 20 for the development of a work begun so well.



The Christian Guest Home, Oakleigh, Ytc.

Community Service at Its Richest

F. J. Funston, Chairman Victorian Social Service Department.

NOBODY associated with social service effort will admit that the work has limitations other than the temporary ones imposed by the number of workers available, the extent of their energy and ability, and the nature of the co-operation they are accorded. We believe that social service departments, with all their allied lines of activity, have already made to brethren in need a very rich con-

mittee. Consultation with chairmen of the social service departments in other States has shown that committees, in addition to controlling Christian Fellowship Associations, a home for aged members and a hospital, have in various stages of discussion or preparation such widely differing projects as a babies' home, the training of nurses, co-operative schemes of various types, central offices for brotherhood activities, schools controlled by the brotherhood, a central meeting-place for Christians on the lines of the Melbourne Christian Club, as well as possible medical, legal and insurance departments. An even more ambitious scheme is a settlement of small cottages for aged members, complete with community centre, church and hospital room. And by all means let it be said: "The end is not yet."

Operate all the above suggestions, however, and we can still be inspired by the calibre and selflessness of the work being done elsewhere—still even humiliated by the relative poverty of our own vision of service. Without laboring unduly the activities of one particular organisation or suggesting that its plan is entirely applicable to local conditions or desirable as a model for our departments, we may yet profit by examining the work of the American Friends (Quakers) Service Committee, showing as it does a magnificent combination of material and spiritual help and a broad conception in attacking causes, both immediate and remote, as well as effects. One

may be excused for using the analogy of a medical man who, while removing the immediate cause of the trouble, also deals with the more general underlying cause, and goes back still further to the habits responsible for the condition.

The committee mentioned has become noted world-wide for its European relief work after the last war, but we refer here to a more recent and less widely-known group of tasks undertaken in its homeland. Bodies of highly trained workers have gone for several weeks into troubled areas and given whole communities not only a new start materially, but a new spiritual and mental background from which to solve or prevent a recurrence of difficulties. Under a system of work camps we find that in rural districts stone has been quarried and roads built, a dam constructed for a power supply scheme, projects for soil conservation, afforestation and co-operative marketing set in motion, areas devastated by flood reconditioned; in mining communities recreation facilities have been multiplied with the construction of playgrounds, parks, swimming pools and other amenities; in a district with important educational facilities college buildings have been extended and remodelled. But these are to be considered as typical only and not as exhausting the list. Works comparable in nature and scope have been carried out each year for some considerable time, and communities from the Pacific to Atlantic and from the Great Lakes to the Gulf have benefited. Another important phase of the work is that in each area selected for the work camps

(Continued on page 365)



J. E. Austin.

For two years a member of the Temperance Committee, which later became the Social Service Committee, Mr. Austin has completed 23 years of continuous service. For two successive years he was president of the committee. The F. F. Austin Cottage for men at the Christian Guest Home was donated by Mr. Austin in memory of his father. He is also chairman of our Properties Corporation.

tribution of service and, in many cases, at a point at which the present economic and social system would leave them to their fate, have given a new hope and a new outlook.

At a time when the keenest minds everywhere are addressing themselves to problems of social amelioration, it would be entirely foreign to any rightful understanding of the Christian gospel for the church to lag behind. It was therefore significant that the Victorian committee at the beginning of this year's operations, practically without discussion, appointed a new Development and Extension Sub-committee, whose primary function is to sort out the many ideas that come forward and to bring them into a shape that can conveniently be discussed by the full com-

But who so hath the world's goods, and beholdeth his brother in need, and shutteth up his compassion from him, how doth the love of God abide in him?

1 John 3. 17

The Australian Christian

I Was Wondering

... yes, wondering about two chaps I went to school with . . . and I know neither of them will see this paragraph.



NUMBER One was a fine lad; his mother, a widow; the farm, when he left for the war, was held against the day when he should come back to work it. But the war unfitted him for farming. In the heavy fighting of 1916 he was reported missing; not until months later was he found to be a prisoner of war. I saw him in the city a few years ago, but he didn't see me. He was that sort!

He was that sort because of what happened on the day he "went missing." A bomb exploded near him as Australians were being forced out of a position; he was seriously wounded—face, eyes, limbs. After the onrush, he was taken to a German field hospital and his eyes removed. . . . Yes, he hasn't seen anything for 28 years!

Number Two used to travel nearly 30 miles every morning and evening for his secondary education. Call to where his brass plate is hung as barrister and solicitor and you may be told that he won't see you. Take no notice of that, however; if you go in and see him, he still won't see you—he's that sort! . . . the same sort as Number One.

9 a.m. on November 11, 1918, must have been a joyful hour for him—off duty; going out of the lines on leave; every prospect that the war would be over before he was due back; himself safe and well. But war had still some grim jokes to play—it always has! Two hours later and fighting ceased; but in the meantime, as he was moving towards his leave, a stray bullet met him, . . . and he also has been in the darkness for 25 years!

I WAS WONDERING . . . why some good Christians are surprised and shocked if some of their brethren do their utmost to oppose a system which makes such things possible!

I WAS WONDERING . . . wondering whether you were wondering . . . why your Social Service Committee or its Social Questions Sub-committee gives much time, whether there is some way out from the possibility of such tragedies as those of my school friends Numbers One and Two.

DO YOU STILL WONDER?

—F.J.F.

Lest We Regret

W. H. Clay

LIFE is full of regrets, no matter how satisfied we may be. Things done and things not done often worry us; hence we should face the future with caution and with plans, for to-day will be yesterday to-morrow. To-day alone is ours.

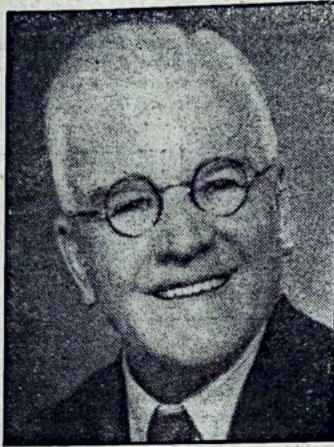
Every Man is Saved for the Sake of Others

Another has said, "Personal religion is not an end in itself, but rather a means to an end, and that end is social." Let us not give this statement a narrow, restricted meaning. How we have been thrilled in the stories of men and women who have gone into the darkest places of the world and have done exploits for God and their fellow-men always forgetful of self! I mention just two cases here: "Albert Schweitzer, philosopher, university professor, author, organist without superior, the greatest interpreter of Bach in the musical world. Who is Schweitzer? Essentially not any of these things. The Schweitzer that will live, the essential Schweitzer, is a medical missionary at his own charges to the black people of East Africa. Why should he do all this? He lives in a giving universe. He gives himself. That is one way to attain life. It is Jesus' way. It is the natural way, the way of unspoiled nature."

The second case is also of a missionary, but of a different kind—an unmarried young man just back from France during the first world war. He, too, was a doctor. He didn't belong to any church in particular. After being rejected by what he called his own church, he offered himself for foreign missionary work with another. He admitted his theology was not quite orthodox. When asked why he wished to be a missionary he replied, "Don't the people need me?" "They do," said his friend. He again replied, "You see, I have seen them; I have seen them carry out hundreds of little children who were dying like flies of a dreadful disease. Don't you think the Master would like me to go?" A case of a bad theology but a good religion. He was accepted. He didn't live four years, and this is how he died. He was down with fever, temperature 104, no doctor within many days' journey. The nurse wired for advice; the reply came back, "Keep him quiet above everything else. He has a fighting chance." That night nurse heard a noise in the courtyard. A group of people had forced their way with a persistence the equal to that of the four men of the scriptures. "Quiet! Quiet! What is it?" said the nurse. There was a sick woman, just a poor, ordinary Chinese woman, but she needed an immediate operation or she must die. The nurse sadly said, "You must take her away. We are fighting for the life of the doctor. Take her away." But when she opened the door, having sent them out, here was the doctor up and dressed. He said, "Call the woman back." Out he went to the operating room and performed the operation and went back to his bed and died. He who told the story said, "I would have liked to have heard his Master say to him, as he rose to meet him, 'Inasmuch as ye did it unto the least of these, ye did it to me.'"

We have produced some heroes and heroines ourselves who are the exceptions amongst us. Maybe we have taken some credit to ourselves in this, but perhaps we have been too ready to have others deputise for us, and we have never realised the corresponding obligations upon ourselves. Many of those who were associated with William Carey's going out to India, in a large measure, only consented to his going. Their attitude suggested that if he chose to go the responsibility was entirely his own. We have not moved very

far from this attitude to-day. Most of us have failed to realise that we are our brother's keeper, and many who have professed to realise it have acted as though his soul was his body as well, and that our responsibility began and ended with the telling of the gospel either by ourselves or by our deputy. Where are we taught that we have discharged our whole obligation by telling? Jesus' life was filled with good deeds, and we glibly quote his biography, "He went about doing good." The



W. H. Clay,

in his 18 years as secretary and organiser of the Victorian Social Service Department, has piloted the work from humble beginnings to its present size and complexity. An inspiration to fellow-workers, he has also won the esteem of high government officials and of hosts whom the department has served.

early church went everywhere preaching the gospel, but they also practised it. True, they did not establish benevolent homes or hospitals, but we are reminded that one of the apostles had to say as he faced the social need, "Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have give I unto thee. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." This poverty, so far as worldly riches were concerned, was not his alone. Like their Master, who had not where to lay his head, and who purchased our redemption, not with corruptible silver and gold, but with his own precious blood, they were poor. The church was not ordained to be rich, but she certainly was ordained to serve.

The Breadth of Service

While, of course, there are no two gospels, there are nevertheless two great commandments upon which hang all the law and the prophets. "The second is like unto the first." The one directs us to God, and the other to our neighbor or our fellow-man. "These two." In serving our fellows we serve God. "Inasmuch," said Jesus, "as ye did it to these ye did it unto me." There are those whose mission binds them almost entirely to the sanctuary, but these are in a very small minority. However, service to our fellows is possible to all, even to this small minority. The dean of Melbourne, a few weeks ago, in addressing a C.E. anniversary gathering, and venturing an opinion with regard to the empty churches, said, "The church had not been interested in the giving of material bread of life in addition to the spiritual bread of life. The church ought to become interested in the material side." "The youth of Melbourne," he continued, "was divided into youth seeking an economic salvation for the world, and

youth seeking a spiritual salvation. But Christ had been concerned with the whole man, his body as well as his soul. The economic and the spiritual were bound up together." When our lives and actions correspond with the gospel we preach, we may expect the multitudes to believe. The community has a right to ask of us that we show our faith. The people measure the value of what we say by what we do.

The Church and Social Welfare

Jesus called his first disciples the salt of the earth, the light of the world, and told of the effects of salt and light. For three centuries the church proved herself to be both the salt and the light. But the salt lost much of its savor and the light faded. No movement since that time, not even the Restoration Movement, has restored fully either the salt or the light of those early centuries. The challenge to the church to-day is to reproduce all the characteristics of the early church, and to restore this fellowship. With this accomplished, her lost prestige will be restored; she will again demonstrate her faith by her works.

To-day is Our Day of Opportunity

This war will end, and we pray that it will be soon. The governments of the Allied Nations are making plans for the rehabilitation of the forces and for improved standards of living, not only for their own people, but for the people of the world. Millions of people will follow in the wake of the war, crying for food, clothing and homes. Now is the time for the church to give the lead to the governments. The "tide is at the flood" once again, and we must take it. The Prime Minister has said that "social and economic security for the people is now widely recognised as an essential condition of peace and freedom from aggression." While he gave this statement a purely Australian setting, it could apply to the whole world. It is the business of the church to champion the cause of social and economic security for all. The world will never be safe until the causes of war are removed. World affairs are in the crucible of experimentation, and when its contents are poured out it will be too late to speak. The mould will declare the shape of the world that is to be. Let us then determine the mould, "Lest we Regret."

There Will be a Last Opportunity

As to-day is ours, to-morrow is the Lord's. When at last the nations shall stand before him, only the yesterdays will be ours, and these will be a witness for or against us. "Inasmuch" as we did or did not. The sentence of this court will not be either acquittal or imprisonment, but reward or punishment. Then let every man to the task, to-day, "Lest we Regret."

Take heed, and keep yourselves from all covetousness; for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Luke 12.15

The Australian Christian

August 2, 1944

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Lettergrams



from
Social
Service
Past-
Presidents

OVER twenty years' membership in the Social Service Committee finds me deeply convinced of the need for expansion of the work being undertaken, and inspires me with confidence in the brotherhood to meet that need this first annual appeal.—J. E. Austin, Balwyn.

GOD bless the appeal! I was chairman of the committee which called W. H. Clay to the secretaryship, and we never regretted the day. Social service is a Christian work of the first order.—H. J. Patterson, College of the Bible, N.S.W.

THE world is awakening to the people's needs. The church acknowledging God's past blessings, and relying on his promises, must lead the crusade against all sin, suffering and distress. Remember August 20.—R. H. Bardwell, Essendon.

ASSOCIATION of over six years with Victorian Social Service Department, including two years as president, convinces me of its tremendous value as an instrument of Christian activity. Liberal response to this appeal will make possible continued and increasing helpfulness.—B. J. Combridge, Preston.

HUMANITY demands charity. Christianity demands justice. Your response on August 20 will enable the Social Service Department to enlarge its ministry in the name of humanity, Christ and the brotherhood.—W. G. Graham, Moreland.

INSINCERITY has been written across the church by our modern world. No greater rebuttal of this charge can be given than by a wholehearted response to Social Service aims and objectives.—G. M. Mathieson, Bendigo.

Jesus said unto him,

If thou wouldest be perfect, go, sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and come, follow me.

Matt. 19. 21



The Australian Christian

August 2, 1944

Who Wants Him?

THIS little fellow was amongst the unwanted thousands, and we placed him with good parents and in a good home. There are many such babies for whom parents and homes are required. We have helped to place several hundred of them. Almost every day someone is seeking our aid.

Here is a chance to make a disciple. "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." Is there room in your home for one?

Your Social Service Department is giving consideration to the establishment of a Babies' Home. This need not involve the brotherhood in a big expense. There is required a fairly large house, perhaps rented, suitable furniture and beds, and a Christian staff. What an opportunity for Christian service! Substantial financial assistance is given by the government, hence the money problem is not a big one.

Social workers are apprehensive concerning the post-war period. Already domestic relations are very strained, and the question of the children in such cases is one for the church before the government.

"Think 'on these things.'"



ONE branch of our work which has answered its own peculiar challenge has been the Victorian Department of Social Service. Moreover, it has become a pattern for churches and Christians in every communion and State. I trust that August 20 will adequately express the brotherhood's appreciation.—C. R. Burdeu, Deputy Commissioner of Pensions, W.A.

I HAVE been a member of the committee for years, and from a close association with the work of social service, I have no hesitation in saying that it gives the church an excellent opportunity to put into practice the teaching, "do good unto all men, especially those of the household of faith."—W. T. Atkin, Northcote.

LOOKING back in the early days of social service, we were making little progress. But one night a really big thing was done. We decided to invite Will Clay to undertake the secretaryship and to organise the work. His was the leadership which has resulted in the big work now so firmly established. The brotherhood will show its appreciation of the results achieved by a worthy offering on August 20.—R. P. Clark.

ANY group, church or State that is not wholeheartedly and enthusiastically for social service and the Golden Rule is a sad, empty thing. People filled with the urge for service to others could make such a State or nation a world as the Master sought 20 centuries ago.—(Dr.) C. C. Sharp.

A Scriptural Collection

A Message from the College Principal,
T. H. Scambler, B.A., Dip.Ed.

THE only collection referred to by that name in the New Testament was a collection for social service (1 Cor. 16: 1, 2). The great texts we rely upon to stimulate interest in giving had to do with "the ministering to the saints" (2 Cor. 9: 1). "Let each man do according as he hath purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9: 7). "Ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might become

rich" (2 Cor. 8: 9). "Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20: 35). They had all to do with social service. It seemed to be the one thing the New Testament talked about when it came to giving.

The record of our own social service work is of such a nature that it is bound to enlist the active sympathy of our brotherhood, and ensure a good offering.

No Two Gospels

The Victorian conference president, E. Lyall Williams, M.A., says that social service is not an addition but the practical part of the gospel.

THERE are no two gospels—individual and social, one the gospel of grace and the other that of social change. We are mistaken when we departmentalise and think anti-thetically, setting one truth or gospel over against another. We should learn to think synthetically, seeing truth and life in wholes. There is one gospel—the gospel of the kingdom which is the gospel for the redemption of the world. It is the good news of a new relationship with God based upon grace. But Jesus clearly showed that there is no new relationship with God without a new relationship with men. The one gospel has individual and social implications. When one proclaims the social implications he is not preaching another gospel, but is merely making explicit what is an implicit or integral part of the gospel of Christ. Social service is not an addition but the practical part of the gospel.

There is no Christianity without service. In his graphic picture in Matthew 25, our Lord revealed that when the white light of final judgment shines in upon our lives, the things that will give us pride will not so much be the evils we have left undone, but the good we have done—the services we have rendered; and the things that will cause us shame will not so much be the evil we have done but the good we have not done—the services we have not rendered.

A vital principle of New Testament Christianity is to give and serve as the Lord has enabled us. The social service appeal presents a challenge and an opportunity.

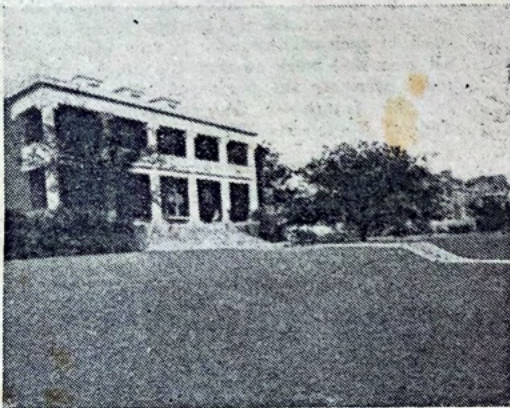
Community Service at Its Richest

(Continued from page 362)

teams of enthusiastic workers, directed by specialists, gain first-hand knowledge of the problems and the possibilities of the area, and then, in consultation with the residents, suggest details of further community betterment measures such as housing projects, labor organization, or improvements in the technique of their agricultural, forestry or industrial work.

Even the limitations imposed on the scope of the work are praiseworthy. It has been a rule not to go into an area unless, in addition to economic problems, there is also a problem between man and man. With these in view, round-table conferences have been pioneered to exercise a reconciling ministry between antagonistic groups, whether these comprise employer and employed, or whether the antagonism arises from differences of race, of color, or of political or religious thought. If we are to covet earnestly the best gifts, there must surely be such a thing as a holy covetousness with which we might look on such a work as this!

Probably none would be so bold as to say that the time is opportune or perhaps even



The Sarah Harwood Hall, Dallas, Texas, U.S.A.

our Australian communities ready for us to embark on any one of the projects suggested by the American experience, but without vision of distant goals, there is every likelihood that our approach to present problems will be uninspired and uninspiring. Meanwhile much good may come from dreaming of the day—five, ten, twenty years hence, who knows?—when, for example, our brethren at X are hard hit by some disaster affecting their whole life and outlook. At this point, the Social Service Department of the day, backed by longer years of experience with the more routine type of problem, having gathered around its activities a team of experts in every department of life, fortified also by stronger financial resources and receiving the joyful co-operation of the young and vigorous manhood and womanhood of the churches, comes to the rescue with some project which will leave a lasting impress on those needy brethren at X and on the whole surrounding district. The present writer remembers that an article from his own pen in these pages about 24 years ago, suggesting leadership training camps for the youth of our churches, may have seemed very far away at the time, but he also believes that social service efforts would be no less attractive, and would yield results as permanent and as valuable as the camps so splendidly conducted by the Youth Department. So long as the human mind reaches out to distant problems in the endeavor to cope with them, so long is it likely that the problems near at hand and most pressing will receive effective attention from those minds

and abilities trained to the task. As Comte says: "It is for the heart to suggest our problems and for the intelligence to solve them. The intellect is primarily adapted to be the servant of the social sympathies."

We realize that at any stage there may be those who will counsel caution and ask: "Is there not a danger of too wide a diffusion of energies?" For the one committee of which I have first-hand knowledge, I can say definitely that we are emphatic on going to no new ventures without thorough preparation and planning—and equally emphatic on continuously consolidating all existing work. As chairman, I pay a genuine and heartfelt tribute to the work of committee members and the department's staff, every one of whom has special abilities or qualifications gladly used where they will be of most service. To the secretary, our beloved W. H. Clay, I pay the same tribute as Admiral Evans paid to Captain Scott: "There is none other like him; he is the Heart, Brain and Master." With confidence we appeal to brethren throughout the Commonwealth to stand behind their appointed Social Service Committees, to enable them to translate into actuality some of their dreams of service and usefulness; from Victorian members in particular we ask for a vote of confidence to be expressed by a generous offering on August 20.

Social Service Co-operates

Scene: A large tent.

Occasion: An evangelistic mission.

Time: Late shopping night.

HUSBAND and wife, passing—stopped—entered—intensely interested. Attended again, and on the second occasion made the good confession. Several weeks later, a representative of the Social Service Committee gave the morning address at this place. Later, a call was made at the office. It was explained that the address was meant for him. He confessed to being in financial difficulties, and a notice produced indicated that in seven days' time a crisis would be reached.

Debts, the cause for which it is not necessary here to state, distributed amongst seven creditors, amounted to over two hundred pounds. He explained that he could not expect us to meet his debts, but he would like to know in what sense the scripture, "Cast your burden on the Lord and he will sustain you" was to be understood? "I" said he, "have done this and am waiting for an answer." We explained that God might be asking us to give it. After investigations were made, we gave it. A home, a position and two souls were saved, and God's word was vindicated. The debt has been repaid to us.

The Widow's Appeal

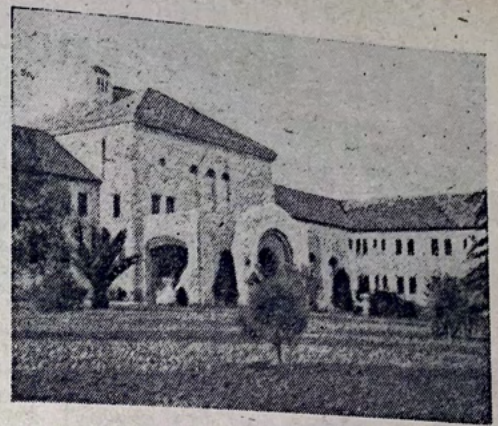
"I'VE four children, all under 14 years. I'm trying to carry an impossible load. The world is so hard; my creditors are crushing me. My furniture is seized, and £30 must be found by this week-end."

A story could be told here of how some business agents take advantage of unsuspecting persons, often widows or aged folk.

We found the necessary money, and saved the home and the widow. In such cases as these, we find some solicitors and money-lenders quite interested in our work, and often substantial reductions are made in amounts due. Our Social Service work is known amongst all the benevolent activities of our city.

C.F.A. cares for cases of this kind.

Are you a member?



The California Christian Home, San Gabriel, California, U.S.A.

A Woman's Appeal to Women

TODAY I would stress that old but ever-new order of Jesus, "Love thy neighbor as thyself." The story of "the good Samaritan" was our Lord's own interpretation and illustration of loving our neighbor—that is to help and give of our best if our brother be in need. Then grasp the opportunity, my dear sisters, on Sunday, August 20, to give willingly and cheerfully so that you may share with others to help others.—Isabelle E. Jeffery, Women's Conference President.

A Mother and Her Baby

"WHAT am I going to do with my baby? I'm afraid to go home. My husband is away, and my daughter, aged 12, must know nothing about it."

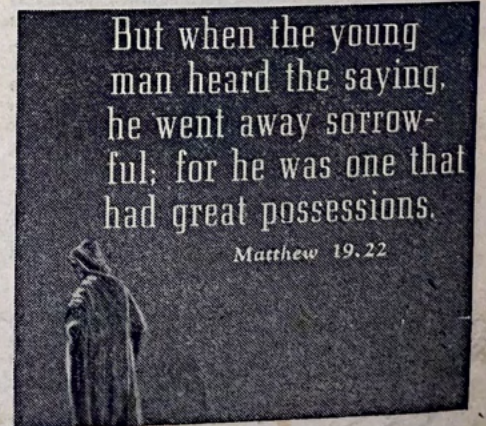
This was the cry of a married woman when leaving the public hospital. Knowing our department, she was directed to us at 4 p.m. At 10.30 the following morning, the baby had found a loving foster-mother.

Answered Prayer

A MOTHER with an invalid husband called with her son, yet in his teens, being sent by her preacher. Being unable, owing to financial straits, to purchase over-sized boots for her boy, we agreed to provide them. The day previous, a pair of boots had been left with us. These were almost new. "Try them on," we suggested. They were an excellent fit. In these days the pair of boots were worth about £2, and we often were compelled to say "silver and gold have we none. . . ." We have no recollection of a similar pair of boots being sent to us.

But when the young man heard the saying, he went away sorrowful; for he was one that had great possessions.

Matthew 19.22



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Here and There

An offering for the Social Service Department will be taken in Victorian churches on Aug. 20.

We are indebted to W. H. Clay for his help in gathering articles and pictures for this social service number. For some weeks past Mr. Clay, owing to ill-health, has not been able to attend to his duties at the city office, but has been directing the activities of the Social Service Department from his home at Ormond. We hope our brother will be restored soon to his usual health.

New Readers

It has been suggested that those who have received "The Australian Christian" for the first time would like to become constant readers of this church paper. News from all parts of Australia, New Zealand, and other lands appears. Views and articles by representative men and women encourage and guide Christian thinking on world problems. See your local church agent, or write to the manager of the Austral Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., 528 Elizabeth-st., Melbourne, Victoria. Next week a special issue on the problem of slums and need for re-housing will appear.

At Sth. Yarra, Vic., at annual business meeting on July 19, all officers were re-elected. A splendid spirit prevails. Plans to raise £600 in three years for new building were approved. On July 30 E. Roffey spoke morning and evening. The church regrets the passing of a foundation member, John Eaton, aged 90; also Thomas Murphy, for 25 years church secretary. Sympathy is extended to the families. Mrs. Dayman, aunt of Miss V. Blake, met with an accident, and has broken her hip. R. Walters is in Alfred Hospital. An afternoon for comforts for Services was held at Mrs. McKerron's, £3/10/- being raised.

We have received the following note:—"Mr. Clay's statement in last week's issue is as inaccurate as his first statement. This independent has actually voted as follows: With the government 8; with the opposition 18. This could scarcely be described as 'consistently with the opposition.' To have cast a vote in this case with the government would have supported the government in an action we believed to be wrong, and would not have indicated independence. Advocacy that the end justifies the means makes strange reading.—Signed, Andrew A. Hughes."

T. H. Scambler was speaker at each service at Gardiner, Vic., on July 23. Ray Taylor, A.I.F., and Norman Holland and Jack Collins, R.A.A.F., were welcomed home on leave. Keith Morris, Hartwell, was soloist at gospel service. Miss M. Smith was married to Mr. Yates (A.I.F., on leave) on July 22. Prayer meeting on 26th took form of Bible study on Heb. 12: 1. Miss Furman, American missionary on furlough, gave a very interesting talk on her work in India at morning service on 30th, and also to scholars in Bible school. Visitors in morning included S. Thomas, Mile End, S.A. Miss W. Lee assisted at gospel service with solos.

The health of J. E. Thomas, preacher at Nth. Williamstown, Vic., has fluctuated since early in June, but has shown considerable improvement over last two weeks. He was able to attend morning service on July 30, and on previous

Sunday read the lesson at Dr. Poling's afternoon meeting at St. Paul's Cathedral. Prayers of the brotherhood are sought for the complete recovery of Mr. Thomas. The church is indebted for preaching help to Messrs. J. V. Ludbrook, J. Burns, R. Lane and W. Cooper (both of Gospel Mission), R. P. Morris, J. Pietsch, Baird, Haskell, Lee and Cameron. The offer of L.A.C. Alec Cameron to act as preacher during Mr. Thomas's illness has been accepted gratefully. Attendances keep up fairly well, with average of 53 at communion services and approximately 60 at evening meetings. All auxiliaries function strongly. Overseas mission offering was £30. Bible school under Mr. Westaway expands with attendances between 90 and 100. Scholars are practising for anniversary under Mr. Haskell. Church has representatives on Williamstown United Church Council, also on committee of Lionel Fletcher mission to be held in local town hall in November. Building fund for improvements has been opened. A monthly news sheet, "Friendship," edited by Mr. Thomas, is instructive and popular. The church extends sympathy to Joan Catchpole and Syd. Parson, each in the loss of a sister.

Federal Conference

THE Federal Conference of Churches of Christ in Australia is to be held in Sydney on Oct. 3 to 7 this year. The present conference executive is situated in Queensland; but owing to travel difficulties and the necessity for the approval of priorities for interstate travel to the place of conference, it was impossible, much to Queensland's regret, to have the privilege of arranging for the conference in the northern State. However, with the gracious consent of

the New South Wales brethren to take the responsibility of all such arrangements, the authorities were approached for the necessary permits to enable the conference to be held in Sydney. The reply indicated that six permits would be allowed for each State with the exception of Western Australia, from whence only three permits would be granted.

Accordingly the States were advised of the position, with the result that five of the six States supported the holding of the conference, were even though the representation, were limited, Victoria alone disagreeing, but nevertheless indicating their support should the conference be proceeded with.

Plans are well advanced, and all State executives have been posted with copies of the constitution, and all committees have been advised of the suggested programme. The Sydney brethren are doing everything possible to complete the arrangements and to meet the various needs involved in such an important gathering.

Although numerous efforts were made to increase the representation, and to enable the Women's Conference to be held, all attempts were of no avail. Accordingly the Women's Conference has had to be abandoned. Queensland has, however, included in its panel of delegates Mrs. Wendorf, the president of the Women's Executive, as a recognition of the sisters' work.

With changing circumstances, and with a world in dire need of Christian leadership, the need of such a conference is very evident. May all plan and work so that the Spirit of Christ shall permeate the hearts of men and nations in the future.—C. F. Adermann, president, Federal Conference Executive.

ADDRESS

Mr. Byard (secretary Warragul church, Vic.).
—7 Mason-st., Warragul.

Notes on Current Topics

MOST important current topics from war fronts in Europe and Pacific, and plans for social and political adjustments in Australia; are sufficiently commented on in newspapers. Increasing hope is growing that the war may cease earlier than anticipated and the glad day of peace come. The report of the Regulations Committee is illuminating. It and Mr. Curtin's comments, giving promise of relief from some oppressive regulations, will encourage lovers of freedom.

Dr. G. Campbell Morgan

IN a letter to Mr. W. Gordon Sprigg, Dr. Campbell Morgan, of London, stated that his preaching days are over. Owing to physical weakness he has only preached once since his retirement in August, 1943. Dr. Morgan began preaching at the early age of thirteen, and at time of retirement was nearly eighty. He was one of our greatest expository preachers. The amount of good he has done by his long and faithful ministry is incalculable.

Lord and Lady Gowrie

After sixteen years in Australia, Lord and Lady Gowrie are returning to England. Lord Gowrie has a unique record of service, having been Governor of South Australia and of New South Wales prior to his being Governor-General of the Commonwealth. Both Lord and Lady Gowrie carry with them the good wishes of Australians, to whom they have endeared themselves in a special manner. They have travelled widely in the various States and have ever interested themselves in the welfare of the people. All classes have joined in expressing appreciation of their worth and work. A newspaper writer well said: "Both have given that something extra—even the length of service would not be enough—which, when

they depart, will cause a gap to be left in Australian life."

Candidates for the Work

Anglicans and Presbyterians in Great Britain are making special plans for their post-war ministry and the securing and training of candidates for service. The recruiting of men for church work from the war services is specially engaging the attention of both the Church of England and the Church of Scotland. The report on training for the Anglican ministry recently issued refers to the great number of men of the Forces who wish to serve the church after the war. 2000 such are already enrolled, and plans have been devised for giving them some preliminary training even before they are demobilised. A memorandum sent by the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland (Professor John Baillie) to chaplains said: "If the Church of Scotland is to meet the challenge and the opportunity with which it will be faced after the war, it must, without delay, secure a large number of recruits for its ministry. There are many men in their war-service, who have revealed, which would find fullest scope in the Christian ministry, and who would respond to an appeal for this form of service, if the need for vincingly put before them." All or nearly all the suggested courses. I trust that churches and train candidates from our brethren now serving with the Forces.

A. D. Main

News of the Churches

Queensland

Gympie-Monkland.—A new series of lectures for teachers, arranged by United S.S. Council, began on July 19 with a good attendance. Gympie J.C.E. celebrated fifth anniversary on July 22, when the superintendent, Miss D. Smith, received a New Testament in basic English as a presentation. At Monkland on July 23, L.A.C. W. Runge made the good confession, and at night a young lady was baptised at Gympie. F.M. offering has reached £38/7/-, a record for both churches.



HELPING SERVICE PERSONNEL

WELL ATTENDED MEETINGS: EIGHT CONFESSIONS

BRISBANE (Ann-st.)—Excellent services are held. F. Hunting's stirring messages are heard by audiences which fill chapel at almost all services. Since he commenced his ministry eight have made the good confession and six have been added by transfer. The special service every Sunday evening for Service men and women is greatly appreciated. Bert Cox, of Belmore church, N.S.W., on evening of July 23 gave testimony of how he had met up with, in a forward area, some boys who had had fellowship in this service, and said that they would never forget the happy times spent around the piano with Sankey. The average attendance at this service is about 80. The church has purchased a manse. Overseas offering to date is £62.

Maryborough.—On July 16 and 23, morning meeting attendances were well above average. Uplifting meetings have been experienced at Urraween during last few visits. Meetings have not been held at Brooweena for some time owing to the tyre problem. Good Companions' Club is in good heart. Visitors during last few weeks included Miss Harris, U.S.A.; Mr. Pitt, Mrs. Sharpe and daughters, and Robert Savill, of Lismore, N.S.W. The church has been sorry to say farewell to Len Pearceon. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. F. Schmidt on the sudden passing of her husband. A. Payne is making favorable progress after operation. Y.P.S.C.E. and friends held a farewell social to Jim Percer on July 15, he having joined up with R.A.A.F. A building fund has been established with good progress.

Western Australia

Perth.—At prayer service last week the life of Nathanael was studied. On morning of July 23, visitors included Miss Nancy I. Friece (Vic.), Clive, Butler (N.S.W.). J. K. Robinson gave a stirring message. At 7.30 p.m. M. Carter (Horsham, Vic.) was present. Mrs. Watson rendered a solo. Mr. Robinson preached. On July 25 the Dorcas Society had an enjoyable foreign mission afternoon. The nursery now has 24 willing workers.

Inglewood.—Sympathy is extended to Mr. Mercer, Les, and Mrs. O. Biddle in the passing of Mrs. Mercer, who was highly esteemed. On June 18 L. Peacock conducted gospel service, Mr. Sherman being absent with influenza. On June 21 a senior society of Christian Endeavor was commenced with twelve young people present. School maintains average attendance of 145. On July 16 Mr. Andrews, of C.I.M., addressed the school, and later the morning meeting of church.

Harvey.—On July 2 Mr. and Mrs. Bamford visited Collie brethren, while A. Johnston spoke at both services here. At gospel service Isabel Coombes confessed Christ. F.M. evening and

sale of goods realised £8/10/-. F.M. offering was £22/10/-. On July 19 Mr. Bamford in evening answered questions from question box which proved interesting and instructive. On July 13 a party was given in honor of Miss Mavis Ottrey's attaining the age of 21, and a presentation was made. On July 9 Mrs. D. Fryer was welcomed back after eight years' absence from Harvey. On July 16 Mr. Roesner with Mr. Bamford motored to Bridgetown to meet with the brethren, and returned for evening service. A. Johnston spoke at morning service. At night a baptismal service was held.

South Australia

Glenelg.—Services have been good, and attendances keep up well. Nine additions have been made by baptism recently. Miss Vawser gave an interesting and helpful talk on July 16. Church anniversary was held on July 23, when 161 responded to roll call by attendance or greetings. Foreign mission offering to date is £36. A novelty afternoon was arranged by Ladies' Auxiliary, £4/11/6 being raised to aid the project of a Christian Guest Home. J.C.E. and I.C.E. Societies are working well. I.C.E. donated £10 to foreign and home missions in past month.

Flinders Park.—Annual meeting of church was held on July 20, a good number of members being present. The two elders, H. Francis and G. Houston, accepted invitation of church to continue as joint preachers until end of October. The following were appointed: Secretary, H. Francis; treasurer, W. Wallace; deacons, L. Schmelzskopff, A. Pearce, A. Shire, G. Pearce, W. Webb; deaconesses, Sisters H. Ghelkin, G. Houston; organist, K. Webb; assistant, G. Pearce; auditor, F. Hubbard. The year has been a very satisfactory one. Auxiliaries are in good heart, especially C.E. Societies. Finances have shown upward trend.

Prospect.—On July 17 the P.B.P. chapter and ladies of church were given an interesting address by Miss Hodges on the work of opportunity classes in schools. Ladies' Guild conducted midweek service; Mrs. Durdin presided and Mrs. Riches presented the message; solos were sung by Mesdames Mackenzie and Fax; there was a good attendance. A. E. Brown commenced breaking of bread at home of Mrs. Langstreth at Kilburn, where recently 200 homes have been opened up. It is desired to open a church there later. Services on July 23 were exhorted by A. E. Brown; good attendances throughout day. Mrs. A. Burns was welcomed into fellowship. Fellowship was enjoyed with visitors and N. Furler, G. Baker, M. Bunyon, C. Sander (on leave), and Harvie Burns (Custon). Sister Foster, one of the oldest members, is very sick. Sister Goodwin is not enjoying the best of health.

Queenstown.—Special services were held on July 9 and 16, when Mr. Brooker completed 39 years and started on his 40th year as preacher of the church. There were good attendances, and a splendid spirit prevailed. Mr. Brooker gave appreciated addresses, and special anthems were sung by choir. Officers and members are working unitedly together to make the 40th year of Mr. Brooker's ministry one of the best. During the 39 years the additions have averaged 30 per year, the highest being 114 and the lowest four. One Bible school scholar was baptised the first Sunday of the 40th year. Overseas missions offering has amounted to £31. Ladies' Bible class has amalgamated with men's class under leadership of G. A. Foote and having splendid meetings. 42 members of church and 32 adherents or members of Bible school are away on active service. The church has enjoyed fellowship with A. Holmes, Mr. Parker and Ray Skudds, after being confined to hospital for a long period.

Croydon.—Church anniversary services held on July 9 were very successful. J. E. Webb addressed morning meeting, 150 being present. After school, the officers, their wives and deaconesses entertained representatives of sister churches and foundation members at tea, 90 being present. At night the building was full, and a roll call of churches revealed that 23 were represented, and brought a greeting. F. G. Banks was speaker, and the choir, under leadership of C. Battle, rendered anthems and other musical items at both services. On July 11 the public meeting was held, 150 being present. A fine musical programme was enjoyed. Secretary's report showed church to be in a very healthy condition. Additions for year were 19 by faith and obedience. All meetings are well attended. Finances are buoyant. All auxiliaries are working well. Bible school has average attendance of 240, K.S.P. club has been re-commenced with a membership of 30. Phi Beta Pi club is functioning successfully. During the month F. Wood and A. Rady received the home-call. Both were in active service as deacons, and their valued help will be greatly missed.

Tasmania

Hobart (Collins-st.)—Attendances have been well maintained, and six new members were received into fellowship in July. Evening service on July 30 was broadcast. C. P. Hughes preached, the choir sang an anthem, and Mr. and Mrs. Golley a duet. At meeting at sanatorium on July 17, Mr. Hughes and several ladies attended. An enjoyable afternoon was held at home of Mrs. Madel-Cole on July 19, when "time and talent" money received was £20. Young people spent July 22 hiking to top of Mount Wellington. Annual meeting of Dorcas Society on July 27 took form of a "drawing room" afternoon. All officers were re-elected—President, Mrs. Jarvis; vice-president, Mrs. Boxall; secretary, Mrs. Cole; assistant, Mrs. Watkins; treasurer, Mrs. Staples; pianists, Mrs. Stranger and Miss Speakman. A fine report of year's work was presented by secretary.

New South Wales

Auburn.—On evening of July 16 special reference was made to the recent tragedy in the Crouch family, thus giving relatives, friends and loved ones the opportunity of paying their last tribute to the two brothers. Both choir and Y.P. Club rendered choral items.



STIMULATING INTEREST

BIBLE SCHOOL DIVIDED INTO FOUR HOUSES

MARRICKVILLE.—The "house" system has been taken up with enthusiasm by Bible school. The school, for competitive purposes, is divided into four groups, each with a leader, and bearing the name of a patron. The patrons are Messrs. Harrison, Hilder, McAllister and Payne. The inaugural "house party" on July 22 was a great success, and under leadership of superintendent, Alan Rae, the school should have a busy year.

Hurstville.—The church is making plans to hold a two-weeks' mission and a "Happy Hour" period for Bible school. On July 16 a ninety-day loyalty campaign commenced, with a view to building up services and organising prior to mission. Among visitors was J. E. Allan, from Victoria, who gave a greeting to the church.

The Australian Christian

Paddington.—There was a good attendance at breaking of bread on July 23, when Mr. Wilson gave a fine message. Bible school session was given over to Children's Day. R. Greenhalgh gave a very interesting lantern talk on missions. 30/- was donated to overseas missions. The death of G. J. Burden, also Stephen Fosbery, R.A.A.F., on active service, is reported with regret. To the loved ones Christian sympathy is expressed.

Rockdale.—On July 16 Mr. Burns spoke morning and evening to good congregations, giving splendid messages. Fellowship was enjoyed with J. E. Allan, of Victoria. A lad from Bible school made the good confession. On July 23, Mr. Burns ably exhorted. Several of the members who had been ill were able to be present. Miss Ford is looking well after her stay in hospital. Mrs. Perkins has returned home from hospital. Mr. Coomber is still in hospital.

Albury.—The work continues in good heart, Mr. Edwards giving stirring messages. There has been another baptism. On evening of July 16, Chaplain H. A. G. Clark gave a lantern lecture on "The Life of Christ" which was much appreciated. Annual foreign mission offering was £8, a record. Soldiers enjoy song service and supper at conclusion of gospel service each week. They also help Mr. Edwards conduct gospel service, and their fellowship is enjoyed by all.

Bankstown.—Visiting brethren have been conducting gospel services during past months. Mr. Blackburn's help during month of July was much appreciated. Special evangelistic services conducted by E. C. Hinrichsen, assisted by Mr. Morris, are proving a great blessing. These meetings are held each Tuesday night. Young People's Endeavor Society made these services their Endeavor night, and have supported them wholeheartedly. After a lengthy stay at Bankstown, Harry Farrow (Georgetown) has been moved to another centre. Servicemen and women, home on leave, have been welcomed; amongst these were H. Larsen, U.S.A., and Mrs. Williams. Bible school continues to progress under leadership of R. Edwards.

FIVE BAPTISED

RECORD ATTENDANCE IN SCHOOL

KINGSFORD.—Good services were held on June 25. One new member was received into fellowship in morning, and one young man took his stand for Christ in evening. On June 29 a midweek baptismal service was held, when five were baptised. Mr. Wilson spoke at morning service of July 2, and Mr. Cunningham at night. Successful services were held on July 9. In afternoon 22 sat for examination. A social evening was held for Bible school scholars on July 21, when 50 attended. July 23 brought good services, with record attendance at Sunday school of 106. Lately several members of the Forces have attended services.

Lismore.—Members of Y.P.S.C.E. tendered a farewell party to Mr. and Mrs. Acland and family at home of Mrs. Oakes; appreciation was expressed of the help Mr. Acland had been to Endeavorers and regret at his departure. He was presented with a New Testament and Psalms, and small gifts were given to Mrs. Acland, Roita and Miriam. Mr. and Mrs. Acland and family were farewelled by church members and friends on July 20. C. L. Savill presided, and referred to the splendid ministry exercised by Mr. Acland. Appreciation was expressed of the service given by Roita as organist. Mr. Savill presented them with a wallet of notes from church members. Mrs. Acland received a gift from Ladies' Guild, and Mr. Acland was presented with a book from R.R.C.E. Union. Ministers from other

churches spoke words of farewell. Several musical items were given. Mr. Acland was also entertained at an evening arranged by combined Endeavor open-air workers, and was given an envelope of notes. There was a good attendance of members at both meetings on July 23, when Mr. Acland gave farewell messages. At night W. Longley made the good confession and was baptised. Fellowship has been enjoyed with Sgt. Ron. Smith, A.I.F., and others.

Victoria

Carlton (Queensberry-st.)—On July 30 both meetings were good. Miss Angli Wai, from America, on her way to Chungking, was speaker at night.

Newmarket.—On July 23 Mr. Graham addressed both meetings. On July 18 Ladies' Guild attended a social service meeting at Ascot Vale. Mrs. Gill was speaker. On July 30 Mr. Graham spoke at both services.

Hartwell.—On July 19 a lantern lecture was held in interests of B. & F. Bible Society. At morning service on July 23, Mr. Eric Evans, of local Baptist church, gave an appreciated address, having exchanged with Mr. Robinson. A Bible school scholar, Irma Morrison, was baptised on July 30. Cpl. Ted Moore is home on leave.

Carlton (Lygon-st.)—There were good services on July 30. C. G. Taylor was speaker at all meetings. Interstate visitors were welcomed in morning. A pleasant social evening was held on July 29, when the staff of the Bible school presented Norm. Jame and Mr. and Mrs. J. Mann with gifts for services rendered to the school.

Hampton.—On morning of July 30 F. A. Crawshaw addressed the church, preparatory to giving a lantern lecture as secretary of the Mission to Lepers on the following Tuesday. At night C. L. Lang preached, and a young lady was baptised. Mrs. Austin has reached her 91st birthday. August is being observed as "Discipleship Month."

Dunolly.—On July 16 Mr. Hindman addressed both meetings, being assisted in evening by N. Gavros, from the college, who conducted the singing, rendered solos and also spoke to the young people. The meeting was a great success, and Mr. Gavros' visit was greatly appreciated by the church. Eight Sunday school scholars sat for examination.

Chelsea.—At a young people's tea held in chapel vestry on July 16, Mr. Whitmore, from East Richmond church, addressed young people. He also led congregation in choruses prior to evening meeting, at which Mr. Pittman gave an inspirational address. On evening of July 23 a combined meeting was held in Congregational church. Over 100 people heard Mr. Pittman speak. This was the second of the combined meetings, which are proving very successful.

Moreland.—In all departments of church loyal effort is being made, and W. Graham continues to preach to good numbers. Recent soloists have been Miss Roberts, Miss Scarce and Miss Potts. A stirring message from Stan Powell, petty officer, R.A.N., was appreciated at a recent morning service. Parcels to Service boys and girls bring letters of appreciation, and the troops' comfort fund benefited considerably by a concert by Claude Gadage with choir and popular artists.

Oakleigh.—On July 9, 25 scholars sat for Bible school examination. At evening "favorite hymn" service, H. M. Long led singing. E. L. Williams was speaker at Men's Fellowship. Members attended series of meetings in Methodist chapel at which speakers from several bodies gave challenging addresses. S. R. Baker showed slides of work of B. & F. Bible Society at women's meeting on July 26. A. Holden, N. Davies, E. Ellis, W. Stevenson and J. Proctor have attended services while on leave.

Carnegie.—At annual business meeting on July 26, reports from auxiliaries were read and discussed. A satisfactory position was discussed. The meeting expressed appreciation closed. The meeting expressed appreciation of the work of L. E. Snow, who has entered upon the sixth year of his ministry with the church. The meeting also expressed appreciation of the work of W. G. Organ, who, in addition to having ably conducted the Bible school for many years, is also church secretary and choir leader.



The Chapel at Carnegie.

Ascot Vale.—Women's Auxiliary held a successful afternoon on July 18. Mrs. Gill and some of the committee were present. Mrs. Gill spoke on social service. The auxiliary held a jumble stall and realised about £8, to go to Oakleigh Guest Home. Mrs. White is still unable to attend services. Mrs. Thorpe has been away two Sundays through a fall. Mr. Burt preached last Sunday to a good audience. Midweek meetings are proving very helpful. Visitors have been welcomed.

Cheltenham.—Bible school reports £2/10/- raised by the children in a special appeal for Dhond Hospital. Painting of interior of school hall is proceeding. Fellowship has been enjoyed with many visitors, including Mrs. Dean, Maylands, S.A., and Ron Hughes and Eric Lewis (home on leave). At evening service on July 30 the speaker was Miss M. Furman, of Disciples of Christ, U.S.A., missionary returning to India. Her message was greatly appreciated, as was a splendid solo by Miss F. Cowper.

Boronia.—Combined offering for foreign missions from ladies' auxiliaries and church was £45, a record. Church attendance has been affected by sickness, but S.S. had above average attendances for July. A steam boiler has been installed for heating baptistery. Recent working bees have made improvements in and around chapel, including gravel paths and built-in furnishings for S.S. Mr. Williams' messages are helpful and instructive. The church has also been helped by visiting speakers at morning meetings.

Wangaratta.—On July 16, at gospel service, Misses Suzanne, Alice and Emily LeMescam were baptised. A new fence has been erected in front of the manse, cost being taken in hand by Sisters' Guild, although donations have been received from several members, including friends in the Forces. The church expresses sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Living in the loss of their only son Ronald. H. Cannon and K. Jackel have been under operations for appendicitis and are improving. Miss Glenice Campbell has taken up duties at Wangaratta Hospital.

Wedderburn.—The church, although without the help of a preacher for last nine months, has supported the work well. W. M. Twiddy holds interest at worship services. Mr. Lung, of Sudan United Mission, was speaker on a recent Sunday morning. B. A. Jackel preaches at evening services. Mrs. Kirby and family, from Malvern-Caulfield, have come to reside in the town. The church is anxious to secure the services of a preacher or to work in a circuit with another near-by church. Sympathy of local brethren goes out to Mr. and Mrs. Gilmore, of Inglewood, in the death of their infant son Robin.

Parkdale.—There were 91 present at morning service on July 30. During day 90 broke bread. B. Coleman was welcomed home from service in North. A preview of A. Coleman's paintings for exhibition raised £4/15/- for soldiers' parcel funds.

Malvern-Caulfield.—On July 30 there were good meetings all day. F. E. Buckingham spoke at both services. In evening Mr. Barber conducted a special song service, and Mr. Buckingham thanked him for his great help during winter campaign. Miss Amelia Scarce sang two solos. The choir rendered an anthem under leadership of M. R. D. Besson. Welcome was extended to visitors.

Middle Park.—Mr. Stewart and Mr. Whiting give faithful service. Mr. and Mrs. B. Benson renewed fellowship with church en route from Sydney to Tasmania. Morning service on July 30 was well attended. Mr. Stewart delivered a helpful address. Quarterly united gospel meeting with local Baptists was held at chapel, when Mr. Lowson was speaker. Bible school has commenced anniversary practice.

Footscray.—Members of cricket club conducted an enjoyable social evening on July 22, when young people from many churches were present. The deacons visited Y.P.S.C.E. on July 26, and took charge of meeting. Miss D. Pearce addressed J.C.E. Society on July 30. Good attendances continue, and work is encouraging in the Bible school. Practice for anniversary has commenced under leadership of W. Easton. 75 were present at fellowship tea, arranged by Y.P.S.C.E. H. B. Robbins spoke. D. C. Ritchie preached at gospel meeting. Miss Eula Gibbons was visiting soloist at tea and evening service.

Balwyn.—Meetings are well attended. All auxiliaries are strong. Sunday school annual business meeting was held on July 28, at which S. A. Broussard was elected superintendent, W. A. Sturgess secretary, K. Adams assistant, D. Salon treasurer. On July 28 the S.S. executive visited home of Mrs. Gillings and made a presentation in recognition of her services as kindergarten superintendent. Fellowship with Servicemen H. Reed, T. Connell and R. Glasson at morning meeting on July 30 was enjoyed, when Mr. Hurren presided and gave the address; 106 broke bread. Ladies of church held an enjoyable afternoon at home of Mrs. Hare on July 26.

St. Kilda.—Mr. Annetts, of Middle Park, presided on morning of July 16. Over 20 young people were present at a tea arranged by Bible school, and at youth service following two of their number, Madge Judd and Eileen Braden, made the good confession. Les. Braden has been seriously ill in hospital, but is improving. Church was glad to have Mrs. Hunt back in fellowship. Mr. Rowse represented L.O.A. at morning service on July 23, and at a well-attended evening service the ordinance of Christian baptism was observed. Reference was made to the death of L. Johnston, a former preacher. Church joins Bible school in "Faithful Fisherman" campaign by special evening services during August.

THE CHRISTIAN ANTI-SMOKING LEAGUE OF VICTORIA

invites all interested to attend its meeting at the

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION,
CENTREWAY, COLLINS-ST., MELBOURNE,

4th Floor, 18th Room on

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11, 7.45 p.m.

Objectives—

Education of youth; to create a conscience within the church. Finance wanted.

—H. R. S. Yeo, Hon. Sec. and Treas.,
90 Francis-st., Ascot Vale.

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Bible Stories

Youth Explores the Bible, by David R. Piper. Presents the story of Bible revelation as one connected narrative for youth of from 12 to 20. Well illustrated, 15/-, posted 15/7.

The Little Jetts Bible, by W. C. Smith. Simple etchings alongside the Bible verses. 11/3, posted 11/9.

Stories of Jesus for Mothers to Tell, by E. Wightman. The life of our Lord, with children's prayers, etc., with each story. Harold Copping pictures, 12/6, posted 12/11.

KESWICK BOOK DEPOT

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

THANKS

Mr. and Mrs. N. Livett sincerely thank the many kind friends for telegrams, letters, flowers and expressions of sympathy in their recent sad bereavements, specially thanking Mr. and Mrs. V. Kaye, of Footscray.
—919 Mt. Alexander-rd., Essendon.

IN MEMORIAM

BROWNRIGG.—In loving memory of our dearly beloved only son, Arthur Jack, passed to a higher life July 30, 1937. Treasured memories.

COLLINS.—In loving memory of Benjamin William Collins (Will), who passed away July 31, 1938. "Till he come."

DEMERAL.—Cherished and loving memories of my beloved husband Claude, who passed away at Albert Park, July 31, 1943.
"Sweetest memories mine to keep."

HOUSTON.—In loving memory of our dear mother, Rose Marion Mary Davy, who fell asleep July 25, 1940.

"Loving memories never die,
As days go on and years go by."
—Inserted by her loving husband and family.

WANTED

Gymnasium equipment for Church Boys' Club.
—G. H. Tully, Main-rd., Doncaster.

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Aug. 6.—The Exultant Hour.—C. G. Taylor, B.A.
August 13.—The Healing Hour.—K. W. Barton.

BAYSWATER PLEASANT SUNDAY EVENING IN BAYSWATER PUBLIC HALL, SUNDAY, AUGUST 6.

6.45 p.m., Community Service.

7 p.m., COMBINED SERVICE.

Guest Speaker: Dr. C. I. McLaren
(Medical Missionary for 32 years in Korea).
When Japan entered the war he was interned in a Japanese police cell.

A hearty welcome to all.

EVANGELISM THE NEED OF THE HOUR!

CENTRAL THEATRE—Little Collins St.—SUNDAY NIGHT, 8.30.

Community Song Service at 8.

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ST. GEORGE'S ROAD, NORTH FITZROY.
AUGUST 6.

Speaker, Mr. A. A. Hughes, M.L.A.,
Subject, "Whither India?"
Soloist, Miss Amelia Scarce.

VICTORIAN MINISTERS' ASSOCIATION.

NEXT MEETING, MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 2.30 p.m.
SWANSTON ST. LECTURE ROOM.

Speaker: Mr. J. A. Lewis, B.A.:
"The Changing Battleground of the Faith."

MARGARET STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST,
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SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY SERVICES,
SEPTEMBER 3 to 10.

Guest speaker: C. G. Taylor, B.A.

Sept. 3, 11 a.m., Stanton H. Wilson.
7 p.m., C. G. Taylor. Service broadcast over
National Stations 7NT, 7ZR.

Monday-Friday (4th to 8th) Special "Week
of Witness." Services at 8 p.m.
Wednesday, 6 p.m., Fellowship Tea.
Sunday, 10th, at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.,
C. G. Taylor, B.A.

Former members and isolated members specially invited. Greetings may be sent to J. P. Foot, 112 Margaret-st., Launceston.

MIDDLE PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST. SPECIAL HOME-COMING DAY,

SEPTEMBER 17.

11 a.m., W. Graham.

3 p.m., Pleasant Sunday Afternoon; speaker,
L. Williams.

7 p.m., H. Swain.

Past members and friends cordially invited. Hospitality provided. Please notify H. A. Annetts, 109 Graham-st., Albert Park, S.C.6, by Sept. 2.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, PARKDALE.

Preliminary notice for past members and friends to keep these dates free:

Oct. 1.—Y.W.L. Anniversary.

Nov. 20-23.—Special meetings with R. L. Williams (Camberwell).

Nov. 26.—Homecoming Day.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, SWANSTON ST.

Services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

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Island Work Presses Forward

AS new workers are expected to arrive in the Islands, good reports are being received of work being done. Ron Saunders writes a hopeful report.

School Work Makes Progress

All grades show advance, the higher grades being able to read and write. Grade three are able to read the New Testament fluently. Considering that five of this grade are girls the advance is most marked. Commenting on these girls, Mr. Saunders says: "They are daughters of Christian men and women. They need Christian education to develop their minds to be leaders among their own women-folk. They are simple village maidens." Of the young men in grade four the report adds: "This fine group of young men have developed quite a good deal. We finished Luke and have studied many of the Proverbs with their implications to the people of these islands. It is very difficult to get the native people to change any of their customs; but when they see the difference between the preaching of the scriptures and their own customs, they are prepared to agree that the teaching is right."

Need for Trained Leaders

"Our greatest weakness in our organisation here is that we have not the trained leaders to go to churches that are asking for leaders, and that in some churches there is a leader who has not had sufficient training to lead efficiently and teach the people. May I quote instances:—

"(a) One of our Maewo villages is led by a fine young man who has had only one year in the mission school. He requested to come back to school again.

"(b) On Pentecost there are heathen villages with church house built asking for teachers which they cannot get.

"(c) The villages on Aoba that were led away to become "independent" would not have been led away had we had strong teachers in that area.

"(d) Similarly with the villages that have been led into the errors of Seventh Day Adventism."

Church Work

"Most of the churches seem to be in good spiritual condition, although much more could be desired—especially in the application of their faith to their daily living. It is difficult for us to judge accurately the spiritual standing of a church. The longer we live among them and observe, the better is our judgment of their capabilities. One of the men—James Gori—who attended our school has a school at Veunarngrwangwe; some of the people from Loloungwalanarcassaw. Last Sunday there was a baptism service at Nduindui, when three or four men and a woman were immersed. Thus after many years of effort by the Christians in that heathen village, the first souls are being reaped into the kingdom. The Spirit is really at work in that village today, convicting them of their sinful ways."

Medical Work

"Our supply of medicines is rather good. We have all that we can use. Several gifts of medicines have reached us from independent sources, so we are able to carry on the good work of healing. The yaws round Nduindui seem to be fairly well cleaned up, only odd cases being encountered. Malaria was common during the wet season, but fortunately we had enough medicine to meet each case. Only a

few outstanding cases. One of the school girls, Jenny Takaro, had a stomach ailment which we could not diagnose. Her father is a heathen who would not allow her removal to Lolowai. She is a lovely adolescent girl in grade one at school, who gives every indication of developing into a fine Christian woman. Her brother is a good Christian, attends my Bible studies regularly Tuesday and Friday nights. She was getting weaker and weaker. I pleaded, threatened and cajoled old Peter, but no—he would not let her be moved out of Lovaturussa. Well, Mr. Finger, Abel Barney, James Vera, Samson of Evatilego, Lorni, Abel, Gordon and

~~~~~  
 This department is conducted by A. Anderson, secretary of our Overseas Mission Board, 261 Magill-rd., Tranmere, S.A. Please make M.O.'s payable Adelaide.  
 ~~~~~

myself went along and prayed for her. Next day we left for Lolowai. When we returned last week she had recovered a great deal. I am not one who rushes easily to these conclusions, but I would say that this is another instance of 'the prayer of faith shall save the sick.'"

Scriptures

Over 1000 New Testaments have been received, and more than 500 have been distributed during the past ten months.

PERSONAL

Mrs. H. R. Coventry

OWING to family reasons, Mrs. Coventry is likely to return to Australia about the end of the year. Muriel will undertake advanced studies in Australia. Mrs. Coventry will remain in Australia until the return of Mr. Coventry for furlough.

Mr. and Mrs. Bolduan

Now in their ninth year in India, Mr. Bolduan has stated that he hopes the way will open for them to return to Australia either at the end of the present year or about January, 1945. Their furlough has been long overdue, but these workers preferred to remain in India than take the risk of crossing the seas. The Board have long desired the return of Mr. Bolduan and family, but in these dangerous times the actual decision must remain with those concerned.

Couple for India

A couple have volunteered and medical examination has proved satisfactory. In a few weeks we hope a definite announcement can be made.

Nurse for India

Nurses are not easily obtainable. An enquiry from a nurse has been made, and is being followed up. It is possible that a satisfactory conclusion will be reached. This is the only reply received to Board's paragraph asking for a volunteer nurse for India.

Mr. T. Escott

This brother is slowly improving, and is now able to sit up. Indications point that he was likely to stay in hospital till end of July. Meanwhile the work at Diksal is having the oversight of Mr. H. R. Coventry.

Australian Churches of Christ Foreign Mission Board Inc.

and

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Western Australia:—R. Duckett, 53 Litchfield-st., Victoria Park.

Tasmania:—G. J. Foot, 31 Proctors-rd., Hobart.

A. Anderson, Federal Secretary, 261 Magill Road, Tranmere, S.A.

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World Missions

R. Raymond, the Western Australian correspondent, reports on missionary work, needs of aborigines, and broadcast programmes.

THE recently elected chairman of the National Missionary Council of Australia (Mr. F. A. Marsh) has paid a visit to this State in his capacity of secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society of Australia. Speaking at a complimentary luncheon tendered to him by the State branch of the N.M.C., he made a most interesting survey of the task that faces the church in the mission fields. "Pre-war standards of Christian service would not be good enough in the post-war world," said Mr. Marsh. Of a world population of 2,100,000,000 only 700,000,000 were Christians. These unfortunately, were statistical rather than effective Christians. "A reliable survey had shown that only 10 per cent. were effective Christians, so that the task of world evangelism was the responsibility of about 70,000,000 Christians in the world to-day. In Asia there were only 13 missionaries to each million of its population of 1,000,000,000. The average Mohammedan, of which there were 300,000,000 adherents, was far more missionary in spirit than the average Christian. "Islam was growing at the expense of lethargic Christians," he said. Mr. Marsh emphasised the urgent need for Christian churches to combine in their approach to missionary work. To this end, he said, machinery has already been set in motion for the formation of a federation of missionary societies. "When this was achieved, it would be possible to set up what might be termed a consulate of missions to handle all matters of common interest." Another phase of missionary activity was that in connection with the dissemination of information of missionary activities. It was necessary that Christian thought should be enlarged to comprehend a world view.

Aborigines and Federal Government

Many people feel strongly about the crying needs of the aborigines, and the need to place these people under Commonwealth control. Mr. Albany Bell, who has made a careful study of the State Act and has watched closely its administration, has prepared a statement setting out reasons why these people should be transferred from the State to the Commonwealth. The pittance provided by our Government for expenditure on native affairs must be multiplied many times. Mr. Bell points out that no sign of any plan for really uplifting these people has been forthcoming that would even start to make them fit to live on equal terms with and among the rest of the population. Since the Mosely Royal Commission eight years ago, no real difference in the native standard of living has been made—it was then described as shocking. Education of the children, Mr. Bell said, the first step in looking for a better future, has been shamefully and criminally neglected, and no compulsory standards apply as with the white population. Under State administration missions are tolerated, but are not called into co-operation or consultation, and they are made aware they must not interfere with certain vested interests. We all look for a better day for these poor helpless, dispossessed and unwanted people.

Broadcasts

In addition to evening broadcasts on the Lord's day, one from 6.30 to 6.45 over 6PR-6TZ, and the other from 8.45 to 9.15 over station 6KY, we have now entered into an agreement to conduct a Young People's Session commencing on July 9 at 9.15 a.m. on the Lord's day over station 6AM/6PM. It is possible that this session may grow in value as a Bible School on the Air. It is hoped to enrol scholars

from our scattered and isolated membership. A children's choir will assist, and features will be introduced that may assist to make this a popular and most useful session.

The Family Altar

TOPIC.—SERVING THE WRONG MASTER

Aug. 7—Matt. 6: 19-24.
8—Rom. 6: 12-23.
9—Rom. 12: 1-8.
10—Rom. 12: 9-21.
11—Rom. 13: 11-14.
12—1 Cor. 12: 1-11.
13—Psalm 29; John 16: 1-15.

OUR Lord predicted that persecutors should arise who, when engaged in the wretched work of slaying Christians, would think they were serving God, whilst in reality they were slaves to Satan. "I verily thought with myself that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth," said Paul to Agrippa, "and this I also did in Jerusalem." All through the intervening ages since that day millions have served the devil whilst thinking they served the Lord. Hence the imperativeness of educating our consciences; for, unguided by the light of divine truth, they may lead us to serve the wrong master, who can pay no better wages than death and damnation.

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- (2) To make weak churches self-supporting.
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- (4) To save souls anywhere, in every way, and at all times.

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A Message from the West

WHATEVER sad incidents have marred the history of the church, she has always led the way in social services, commencing with the Founder, through the New Testament, down the centuries even to our own time. She has always been the forerunner of State social services. In every community, in every country in the world, the Christian community remains the inspiration for unselfish service to the poor, and the sick and the needy.

To-day in India and China the governments of those lands are accepting the challenge set by missionaries of the churches. In more backward countries the church is working almost alone for the relief of the sick and poor. The State will ultimately, in those parts, take a greater share in social services.

There is, however, one thing in which the State cannot follow the church. The State cannot give the people a Christian service. There is a world of difference, and that being so, it still remains the responsibility of Christians to demonstrate the difference between charity and love.

There will always be social services whilst there remains one Christian church or one Christian, and a man, woman or child in need. The urge to do good is the background of every person born of the Spirit.—C. R. Burden, Deputy Commissioner of Pensions, W.A.; a former secretary of Social Service in Victoria.

THOUGHT

*Men of character are the conscience
of the society to which they belong.*

—Emerson.

PREACHERS' PROVIDENT FUND

With which is incorporated the Aged and Infirm Evangelists' Trust.

Established by the Federal Conference of the Churches of Christ in Australia.

Members of Committee: T. E. Rofe (Chairman), H. E. Bell, J. Crawford, C. Graham, W. H. Hall, Dr. C. A. Verco, F. S. Steer (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer).

Representative in Victoria: W. Gale, T. & G. Building, 147 Collins St., Melbourne, C.1.

Representative in South Australia: General S. Price Weir, 2nd Avenue, East Adelaide.

Representative in Western Australia: Roy Raymond, 260 Bagot Rd., Subiaco.

The Objects of the Fund are:

1st. To assist financially Aged and Infirm and Retired Preachers.

2nd. To control and manage an Endowment Fund to which Preachers may contribute.

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The Australian Christian

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August 2, 1944

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