The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

"THE ENTRANCE OF THY WORD

GIVETH LIGHT."

A Journal Representing

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Religious Education in State Schools

"THE children here, living out in the hills," a head teacher wrote, "are mostly the families of alexanders." wrote, "are mostly the families of sleeper-cutters. need for religious instruction is as great here as anywhere in There is not a church or Sunday school anywhere Even in some districts not so remote, chilin the vicinity." dren are not touched by direct religious influences. A teacher in a recent letter said, "I found a group of children in this locality (less than ten miles from a big provincial city) who did not know what a Sunday school was, who had never seen a Bible, did not know a hymn, and had never heard the Lord's prayer.'

It has been estimated that there are, in Australia, 1,141,000 children between the ages of five and fourteen years. If we take the ratio in Victoria as a guide, where only three in every ten children attend a Sunday school regularly, there are 798,700 children in Australia not under the constant guidance of Sunday school workers. Half the children in the Commonwealth do not belong even to a Sunday school. We may estimate that 570,000 children are outside the reach of Sunday schools, as they are now constituted.

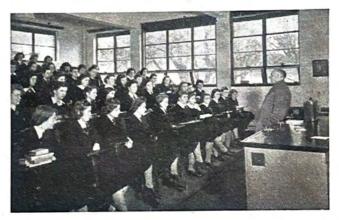
BECAUSE of the general drift in education toward secularism, the spiritual life of the great majority of Australian children has suffered. Those in close touch with children, and who are concerned about the future of the nation, are alarmed; they are demanding action.

At a meeting on December 11, 1942, of the Head Teachers' Branch of the Victorian Teachers' Union, the following resolution was passed: "That, while coercing none, and according liberty of conscience to all, we maintain that education for life should be based upon religious teaching, and therefore, we believe that the Education Department should be granted the necessary power to arrange, in co-operation with religious bodies, for a fuller measure of religious instruction in State schools."

A careful reading of the above resolution reveals that the head masters are not satisfied with the measure of religious instruction the children of the State are receiving.

CINCE the majority of Australian children do not attend a Sunday school regularly, and the amount of religious instruction in State schools is limited, a generation is growing up with insufficient religious training to ensure moral stability within the nation.

Figures supplied by A. W. Meadows, Stipendiary Probation Officer of the Children's Court in Victoria, show, over the last ten years, a general increase in child delinquency. In 1934 there were 3322 cases, by 1937 there was a rise to 5180, and by 1942 the figure was 6278. In 1943 there was a slight



Although these figures are high, they do not fall to 6038. exceed the peak figure of 1918. However, Mr. Meadows says, "To give, then, a plain answer to the plain question: 'Is delinquency increasing?' one must answer, 'The trend indicates that we are likely to find higher figures for juvenile delinquency over the next few years unless conditions change."

WHILE the impact of religious and moral instruction upon the modern child has been small the modern child has lessened, the influence of the "talkies" has increased. The Chiel, commentator on films for "The Argus," reported in the issue of October 14, that each week three and a half millions of Australians attend picture theatres. Within a fortnight, a number equal to the whole population of the Commonwealth sits before the silver screen, receiving impressions of a fantastic Hollywood-world, and an exaggerated notion of actual life. Those who control the film industry are not concerned, primarily, with the morals of a people, but rather with the amount of profit they can make.

Governments have been compelled to intervene and censor films, but such efforts are directed to prevent the industry from going to extremes. This fact remains, namely, that the outlook of Australians is being shaped, in a measure, by a popular type of entertainment that, on the whole, is not being influenced directly by Christian ideals. Children are fascinated by the stories of the films. Being at a time of life when they are easily impressed, these young people, not being critical enough to separate real from false, are influenced by what they Some magistrates have been see and hear at the theatre. forced at times to point out how some young offenders have been led into criminal ways by what they have seen on the silver screen.

[Please turn to next page.



DO NOT DISAPPOINT HIS YOUTHFUL HOPES

HITLER'S slogan has been, "Give me the child from the time he learns to think and talk and he is mine." "Education for Death." by Gregor Ziemer, who was director of the American Colony School in Berlin, explains better than anything yet published on German education since Hitler, the perversion of all moral values in Nazi Germany, the blind allegiance of German youth to the Fuehrer, their readiness for supreme sacrifice and their ruthless drive.

After the fighting stops, young Germans with their warped minds and misshapened ideas and attitudes, will present one of the most tragic and difficult problems in post-war reconstruction. Their re-education will be among the most crucial tasks of those determined to insure a lasting peace.

This has led to the organisation of a World Education Service Council by Public School Teachers of America, to "extend to fellow educators who have borne the death struggle, concrete evidence of our sympathy in their task, and also to encourage the young in our schools to reach hands of friendly help

Education for Death or Life

W. R. Hibburt, secretary of Federal Young People's Department, sees dangers in a rising generation that is seeking more out of life than it is prepared to put into it.

Australia

The problem is not one for our enemies lone. Evidence in Australia of mishapen alone. ideas and attitudes is staggering: child delinquency, and a legion of aimless adolescents are sufficient in themselves to make it obvious that there is a grave deficiency in education. More education and an extension of school years will not overtake the deficiency if the spiritual ingredients are omitted, and if it leaves youth without God as sovereign authority and a knowledge of his laws which have existed from the foundation of the world.

Both political and educational trends have contrived to produce a generation that wants more out of life than it puts into it. A government authority, whose business it was to interview people who had given false evidence in documents in the hope of securing financial assistance, remarked to the writer, "Success is assistance, remarked to the writer, Success is understood by a great company of people as the ability to tell the greatest lie and get away with it." This element in society is an exposure of its artificiality and its shortcomings, and education must share the blame,

The Motive of Education

There is an awakening amongst educationists to-day, and research work is being done, but many are yet fearful to put the Christian motive and content into it. This is being left to such agencies as the Victorian Council for Christian Education in Schools. Churches of Christ in Victoria have every confidence in this council and its director, Mr. Rex Mathias, M.A., and since August has contributed £73 for the work of the council and during the last five years £300.

A more important contribution is the weekly attendance of many of our preachers and members at schools as instructors.

discussion of the working of this measure at

church conferences gives rise to complaisance

by members and citizens generally, and to a

disregard of the fact that preachers may be struggling to cope with a task under the dis-ability of available "time" for such instruction?

Or is the whole question of sufficient value

-in view of the years of struggle by electors

of South Australia to get the bill passed, and

of the time and travel of preachers in country

Where are the Greatest Possibilities? Is it not possible that a lack of report or

DOES religious instruction to State schools benefit church or State? In order to draw light upon the subject from those of our religious leaders responsible for its application—rather than to provoke mere de-rogatory criticism of what may be a system of potential value to the development of both church and State—this pertinent question is asked by the casual observer who feels that there is need for greater co-ordination between:

(a) The church-its separate "religious" group leaders, local and State.

(b) The church-its "teacher" members and Bible school departments, in supplementing the work of the preacher in coping with the work of each local school.

(c) The State teachers and the Department of Education. Although this latter section may rarely participate (and advisedly so), either to the help or hindrance of the system.

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areas each week—to question whether full and effective use is being made of religious instruction by the church responsible for its administration?

One is left with a doubtful conclusion when comparison is made with what is apparent and what is possible if such opportunity, as provided by State law, could be exploited fully by the church as a whole, and as it is being exploited by some religious sections.

As a simple instance: The preacher of a given centre reports to his officers that, at a local public school where he and another non-conformist preacher visit, over 70 chil-

dren of lower grades are without instruction by any church's representative each week because of the number to be dealt with and the inadequacy of other assistance at a set hour and day of the week. A proportion, however, may be in attendance at a Sunday school on Sunday. But does it not seem disproportionate that, in an area where 500 to 600 primary and high-school students are available for instruction, there are three or four preachers of various denominations (and some teaching and urging an exclusiveness of their denomination) teaching for half an hour each week, and yet in all the Sunday schools fully staffed by teachers making a life sacrifice to their work, far less than 30 per cent. of that number are in attendance?

Where are the greatest possibilities for a church and pre-peace reconstruction-with the Bible school teacher and his three or four scholars on a Sunday (no reflection on their faithful service either) or with the preacher and his 70 or 80 scholars at the public school?

No doubt he also is doing all he can in his situation—which is often out of proportion to his ability, for time and space available to him. But in view of this wider field, as is presented by religious instruction in State schools, is there not the possibilities of establishing the state of the tablishing a better basis for the desired unity by a practical demonstration from the leaders of Christianity, of closer co-operation and coordination in the manner and in the matter of teaching to such a number-as well as that of bringing about some evidence of closer contact with student, parent, and State school teachers?-W. A. Hunt, Berri, S.A.

Religious Education

(Continued from front page.)

Because the film is influencing the minds and imagination of hundreds of thousands of Australian children, there is urgency in the demand for a moral corrective force to be brought into their lives. The Christian church must make a bid, with a great counter measure, to swing the rising population away from the influence of non-moral, and sometimes immoral, film entertainments and materialism, and bring all young Australians under the direct spiritual leadership of Christ.

As we have pointed out, the great proportion of children do not attend Sunday school, and many are not encouraged by parents to do so. The opportunity offered by State schools to Christian workers to enter schools and to give religious instruction to scholars ought not to be neglected. The church must consider this service as a major responsibility, and make it possible for ministers and workers to undertake the duties involved. It is right for a church to release its preacher from minor tasks and to free him to give religious instruction in schools, perhaps even insisting that it be one of his important duties concerning which he must provide a report from time to time.

Regulations governing religious instruction in various States differ. Within New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia, a period of scripture reading is provided by the Education Departments. In addition, churches have the right to gather their own children into groups and to give them instruction. In Tasmania and South Australia, Bible readings are not given by teachers, but ministers may segregate children for religious instruction. In Victoria it is given to undivided classes.

Only as Christians unitedly face this great task of evangelising boys and girls will this work be done well. The formation of The Council for Christian Education in Schools, in Victoria, with a full-time director, is a step other States could take. Then, through some Commonwealth council, in the future, the whole nation could receive uniform benefits from religious instruction in all Government schools.

To Prove that the Church

Means Business

By making a public

appeal to the Christian citizens of Victoria for £10,000, the Coun- Rex Mathias, M.A., director of The Council for Christian Education cil for Christian Educaa mandate to extend and improve Christian teaching to nearly 200,000 scholars in more

than 2000 Victorian State schools. Much has been said recently about the need for re-forms in the Victorian educational system. There has been evidence of a widespread desire that the influences in schools which help to build character should be strengthened. Many thinking citizens, outside as well as inside the churches, have become alarmed by the signs of a considerable moral landslide in the community, and by the indications that the incidence of religious illiteracy is very high. Faced by these facts, and with the assurance that in tackling its task it has behind it the goodwill of the community, the council has decided upon a bold developmental

The council starts from the conviction that we cannot be satisfied with what has been done in the past. For more than 20 years this organisation, known formerly as the Joint Council for Religious Instruction in the State Schools of Victoria, and representative of the seven big Protestant denominations, has been steadily improving its service in the schools of the State. Last year more than 1600 voluntary instructors were at work in metropolitan and country districts.

Hitherto, permission for these instructors to teach Christian faith and conduct in schools has been granted by departmental regulations only. Steps are now being taken to secure proper status for scripture instruction in State schools by having right of entrance by accredited instructors guaranteed by Act of Parliament. An amendment of the Education Act will be necessary to secure this reform. At the same time, the churches must realise that status for this work can be won and retained in the educational world only by the highest possible efficiency of method. Religious educcation will command respect and support when all of us who are engaged in it are contributing the best that we can offer.

AN AGREED SYLLABUS

THREE urgent reforms that must be quickly undertaken are the adoption of an agreed syllabus, the preparation of approved text-books, and the establishment of teacher-training facilities. The council is making its plans for these. Up to the present, comparatively few instructors have used the handbooks of lesson notes issued by the council. Most instructors have chosen to follow a syllabus of their own choosing. This lack of co-ordination would not be allowed in the teaching of any other subject. It should be obvious to us that a child, in the course of his school life, needs a graded and systematic introduction to a body of knowledge. If he is to reach an understanding appreciation of the Christian way of life through lessons taught in a school, he must be taken over a carefully prepared course. Furthermore, wise selection of material is essential when there is so much ground to cover and such a little amount of time available.

An agreed syllabus is one drafted by competent people from church and school to cover the school life of the pupils. It deals with that about which there is general agreement among Christians. The topics set for each year are taught by the teachers concerned, each teacher having the right, of course, to decide how he will present the material.

tion in Schools seeks in Schools, outlines a campaign by which it is hoped to give adequate religious instruction to school children.

> The council hopes that next year an agreed syllabus for use in State primary and secondary schools in Victoria will be completed, and that all instructors will use it from 1946 onwards. On the basis of this agreed syllabus, a new range of teaching literature for all ages among school children will be prepared. The first volume of "Plan for Living," the first of the new text-books, and one for use in secondary schools, has been published by Oxford University Press. Volume 2 is about to be written. All the handbooks that have been in existence for the council's instructors will be discarded to make way for the new courses. Some of the detailed arrangements connected with the use of these new textbooks are the subject of negotiation with the Education Department. The council is glad to testify that it has received a fine measure of co-operation from the teachers of the Education Department who do their best to facilitate the work of scripture instruction in the schools.

TRAINING TEACHERS

PLANS are now being made to establish facilities in the metropolitan area next year which will help voluntary instructors in the technique of teaching. Many will be glad to use these opportunities to make their service even more efficient. We must all realise that the teaching of religion requires some technical skill. All educationists within the churches should continue to press for the introduction into theological colleges of a thorough scheme of training in teaching method for those who are to have the leadership of local churches. In both day school and Sunday school there is an urgent need for men and women trained for their task as teachers.

The council plans to establish at convenient centres and at convenient times classes of advice and help for all who can attend. These classes will be staffed by those who have had long experience as teachers. Retired head teachers and some of our voluntary instructors who have professional qualifications and an intimate knowledge of the conditions in which the work of instruction must proceed, will be available as leaders of these classes. Later, similar facilities will be provided in provincial centres. While these classes are proceeding, help in other ways will be provided for those in country districts, chiefly by means of litera-

TEACHING AIDS

SEVERAL instructors have already welcomed the proposal that the council should establish a library of books, pictures, posters, models, film strips and other modern teaching aids. This material would be available for hire and use by instructors. The use of good illustrative material will add greatly to the force and value of scripture teaching. Unable to procure these aids for themselves, many instructors have been forced to continue instruction by the "lecture". method, while recognising its undesirability. Obviously, the establishment of such a library of aids would depend upon the acceptance of an agreed syllabus.

The council also plans an improvement of its teaching service for children in remote country State schools. About 3000 of these children receive scripture instruction through the post. Nine monthly lessons are sent to



Some of the Large Company of Instructors.

them. Their written work is returned to instructors in the metropolitan area and in provincial cities, and these people maintain a most delightful and helpful contact with their pupils and, in some cases, with the parents, by means of correspondence. The council knows that these children, in most cases far away from a church or a Sunday school, deserve the best service that can be given. They are entirely dependent for Christian knowledge upon the lessons and letters that come to them. Next year the council proposes to substitute for a one-page, type-written Bible story, a monthly printed booklet of four pages, containing a Bible lesson and some illustrative reading matter. This will add considerably to the costs of this service, but the improvement of nearly 400 "correspondence schools" will give to the council a great satisfaction.

PARTNERS IN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

IT is estimated that these and other improvements in the work of Christian teaching in Victorian State schools will cost the council approximately £5000 a year. The appeal for £10,000 is to make possible the launching of these plans. At the time of writing, £6700 is in hand. Many generous donations have been given. The regular daily publicity provided by "The Argus" over a period of ten weeks has been an outstanding indication of goodwill. Officers of the council are hopeful that more and more church congregations and organisations will rally to the support of a venture which gives to the church the chance to prove that it does mean business. Up to the present, church congregations and organisations in the seven affiliated denominations have contributed only £700, of which one church gave £500.

The council's financial plans envisage the establishment of a group of 5000 Partners in Christian education, each of whom will underchristian education, each of whom will undertake to contribute £1 a year to the maintenance and extension of this work, as long as circumstances permit. So far, about 300 people have joined this group. By deliberate choice, the council would prefer that its work should be supported by small gifts from many people rather than by big gifts from a few. We aim to establish regional committees in local areas which will be responsible for maintaining the efficiency of the work done in the schools of those areas. These committees, consisting of ministers and a representative from each congregation in the area, will be asked to undertake responsibility for the staffing of local schools by competent instructors. Keeping out the wrong sort of instructor by putting the right sort in to the schools will represent a notable contribution to the success of Christian education.

Donations and suggestions in connection with this work should be sent to the Chairman, the Council for Christian Education in Schools, 31 Queen-st., Melbourne, C.1.

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Leader.—I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the needy; and the cause of him I knew not I searched out.-Job 29: 15, 16.

Hymn.-C. of C. Hymnal, 287, "Lord, when our offerings we present."

LORD, our Christ, may we have thy mind and spirit; make us instruments of thy peace; where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be under-stood, as to understand; to be loved, stood, as to unuerstand, to be tooled, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life; for thy name's sake. Amen.-Francis of

Bible Reading .- Acts 4: 32-36.

Solo.

Devotional Talk.

WHAT we outsiders need in order to con-W vince us that you Christians have in-deed 'broken through into reality,' is to see who can command luxury, choosing poverty so long as their brothers want; those who might rule men, industrially or politically becoming true servants of the democracy. It is to find Christians voting in public matters steadily against their own class interests, and than to own." Thus the author describes what would be a modern version of our Bible reading. Because they had surrendered all of themselves, including their possessions, to their God, they were victors over the material world. They were willing to give up wants and desires, and be restricted to the satisfaction of their needs. Consequently no one had less than he needed.

It is at this place of money and possessions. that so many are defeated to-day. We have forgotten the claim of ownership by God as expressed by the Psalmist, "The earth is the Lord's, and all that therein is; the compass of the world and they that dwell therein."

We have divided life into sacred and secular compartments. In the sacred category we put hope, holiness, faith, worship, our Christian Sunday, God; in the secular we place the pleasures and comforts of life, leisure, talents, money, possessions, the rest of the week; and we claim the secular for ourselves. ourselves.

Many are willing to share with God to the extent of one-tenth of their possessions: Do we recognise God's ownership of the re-Do we recognise God's ownership of the remaining nine-tenths? If so, would wars continue to be promoted and waged, slums be tolerated, profits be more prized than persons, and the liquor traffic be boosted? No, God is not satisfied with a fraction; he demands the whole. Granted that, he gives us the power through the richness of his grace to share time, money and talents with those who are in need. And as long as there are hunger, poverty and dire distress, the level of our needs should be kept to needs. That means distributed living which will be a support the control of the co That means disciplined living, which will produce fine Christian character. Through such lives the power of God will again be made manifest, that his kingdom may come, and his will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Hymn.-C. of C. Hymnal, No. 498, "O Master, let me walk with thee."

Prayer. Business Home Mission Notes. WOMEN'S PAGE

The Power Sharing



"This woman was full of good works."

Overseas Letter.

Address .- "The United Church of Japan." Hymn.-C. of C. Hymnal No. 580, Benediction.

(Mrs. W. F. Nankivell is the writer of this month's and the next two months' devotionals.)

FEDERAL CONFERENCE

ALTHOUGH it was impossible to hold a Women's Federal Conference, owing to travel restrictions, there were opportunities for the women's Federal president, Mrs. Wen-dorf, and the Federal secretary, Mrs. Bates, as delegates to the Federal conference in Sydney, to meet other women from each State.

On Tuesday, Oct. 10, the New South Wales women's conference entertained Mrs. Wendorf and Mrs. Bates, and the inter-state women delegates at morning tea in the annex of David Jones' restaurant. Over one hundred were present. The gathering was presided over by the N.S.W. president, and an able address was given by Mrs. Wendorf. Greetings from the two missionaries present, Miss Edna Vawser (India) and Miss Elsie Roxburgh (Norseman) were appreciated. Mrs. Bates thanked the N.S.W. women for providing meals for the general conference, and for helping to make the conference a success. She presented gifts of books to the president, Mrs. P. D. McCallum, and the secretary, Mrs. G. E. Knight, as a token of appreciation of the work the women had done.

On Oct. 9, many of the visitors to conference accepted the invitation of the committee of Ashwood House to afternoon tea at the Home, and to look over the buildings and grounds for aged women. Greetings were given by a delegate from each State. visit was enjoyed by the guests of the Home.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

NEXT year, the World Day of Prayer, which N is being increasingly observed in most countries, will be held on February 16, 1945. The Order of Service has been prepared by a group of four writers in London, on behalf of the World Day of Prayer Central Com-mittee in Great Britain. It comes to us in mittee, in Great Britain. It comes to us in Australia by way of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America, which is the equivalent of our National Missionary Council.

The theme is "The Church Universal," and the devotional thoughts are taken from 1 Pet. 2: 9—"That ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light."

In a letter which accompanied the programme, the group said, "We British Christian we are called as part of the world church.

We British Christian women feel strongly that our Christian living needs overhauling—that something in the nature of spiritual education is essential if we are to take up the task ahead to which we are called as part of the world church. ters in every land to take time for prepara-tion prior to the Day of Prayer in the study of First Peter."

FROM STATE EXECUTIVES

South Australia

THE sisters' auxiliary held a pioneer afternoon on Sept. 9, at Grote-st., when over one hundred pioneer and country visitors enjoyed a happy social time. Community singloyed a nappy social time. Community singing was led by Mr. Harry Manning. Items by Mrs. J. Fletcher, Miss Sage, and Mrs. Burns were appreciated. Reminiscences were given by many, two sisters having been members for 66 years. Afternoon tea was supplied by the executive.

The monthly meeting of the auxiliary was held at Grote-st. on Oct. 5, when the new president, Mrs. Claude Verco, presided. The minutes of the conference in September were read and confirmed.

A prayer meeting is held each month prior to the auxiliary meeting. Mrs. P. R. Verco is in charge. Mrs. McGregor, of Victoria, was a visi-tor, and spoke about the Victorian Guest Home.

AT the monthly meeting held on Oct. 6, Mrs. Peart, secretary of Council for Christian Education in Schools, brought a challenging message on the work of her council, stressing the need for all to co-operate in every way possible, that the work of giving Christianity to the children of Victoria may be increased.

Miss P. Ludbrook was recommended to stand on the State Aborigine Committee in place of Mrs. R. Sandells, who has resigned owing to ill-health.

Sympathy of all was extended to Mrs. Ploog, superintendent of the prayer meeting committee on the loss of her husband.

On Sept. 27, the annual mission band rally was held at the Lygon-st, church. In the morning 150 ladies were present and received a challenge to do their part in helping the church live up to its responsibilities and possibilities. Over 200 were present in the afternoon to hear Miss Vawser tell some stories of her work in India. Members of the missionary department gave a missionary presentation entitled "Their Lives Challenge" at this session. Delightful solos were rendered by Miss Daff and Mrs. Hutton.

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Ministering to the Sick



Dr Oldfield treating an ear case.

Ashwood Memorial Hospital

DR. G. H. OLDFIELD reports that the year just ended was a record one for the number of patients treated. 682 in-patients and 24,000 out-patients treated, including 6592 new 285 operations were performed and 1534 injections given—132 maternity cases were conducted, 45 of which were abnormal, With this number of hospital in-patients for the year, we found our accommodation all too small, and shall be glad when it will be possible for us to erect new wards. The problem of nursing has been acute. We have been taking untrained girls, and some of them have not proved suitable for train-We are now endeavoring to have some of the girls in our Shrigonda Girls' Home trained so that later on they may be ready for a really good nurse's training. We had hoped to be able to have commenced building new quarters for the nurses, and plans were prepared and estimates obtained. At the present time it would cost, even without any contractor's fees, over Rs. 12,000 (£1200). We do not feel justified in commencing to build while prices are so enhanced, but we have started a fund so that at the end of the war we hope to have a fund amounting to Rs. 8,000 (£800) which should enable us to build these greatly needed quarters. hospital workers have continued to demon-strate that Christians seek to help all classes of the community, both spiritually and physically, and that the ministry of healing is a part of the church's activity. Its value in relation to our evangelistic work in all our stations is being shown continually. We work and pray to the end that its usefulness may steadily increase. The expenses during the year have amounted to Rs. 18,789 (£1850), which is £300 in excess of last year. Receipts which is 2500 in received. The receipts from all sources were £1460. This shows that the hospital was more than three-quarters self-supporting (78 per cent.). The remaining £400 has been contributed from Australia, mainly by the young people of churches of Christ in all the States. (Although the hos-Christ in all the States. (Although the hospital is 78 per cent. self-supporting, 30 per cent. of our patients were treated free.) The cent. of our patients were treated free.) The help of the young people in this way is most gratefully acknowledged. They are loyally keeping to their promise that they would keep this hospital running. May God richly bless them all, and make this work of theirs increasingly useful in this land of India.

Miss Foreman's report deals with the nursing side of the hospital. "The usual changes

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in India *****

Mail received from India contained annual reports of all stations, and a resume of the work performed during the year.

of staff have taken place. Four girls have left the hospital during the year, three to be married, and thus we ended the year with only one of the nurses with whom we started. One young girl from a mission school joined the staff in September, and in November Mr. Moses Shrisunda came as a male nurse with mission hospital experience, but no certificates. He is somewhat better than some of the nurses we have had. His wife has also joined us, and though she has no certificates, she is the best help we have at present. Our only trained nurse, Mr. Sansare, is not nursing now, but doing compounding and laboratory work. The nursing has been much heavier this past year, due to the increase of patients. Midwifery cases alone have increased 200 per cent, in the past four years. Bhuribai is still the nurses' companion, having been with us for nearly three years. We still hope with expectancy for the new nurses' home, and long for the day when we can have a reliable staff. It is easier to get male nurses these days than female, but as the majority of our cases are women, we need female nurses. "Let us not be weary in well doing;

for in due season we shall reap, if we faint

Church Report

The meetings of church of Christ at Dhond have been held regularly in the Edwards Memorial chapel, which is more and more appreciated as the days go by. We are glad to have Mr. Sumantrao Hivale as pastor, and appreciate the fact that he has been willing to resign his headmastership of the Baramati school in order to serve in this way. We look for much blessing on his labors with the church. The church membership at Dhond is 73, including 30 Telegu-speaking Christians. As their language is different, they meet separately in one of the houses in their little settlement. During year fifteen were added to the church by faith and obedience.

Sunday School Report

The compound and railway classes continued during year, with an average attendance of compound, 37, and railway, 14. Mr. S. Gaikwad and Bhoribai have been faithful teachers, and a group of the children went to Baramati to take part in the programme at conference. On Christmas eve, the annual prizes were presented, and the children received biscuits, sweets and tea.

Women's Evangelistic Report

Five village classes have been held each week with an average attendance of 71. work is mainly among the depressed classes, and Bhoribai is very well received. She has a good opportunity of meeting the crowds relatives who come to the hospital on Sunday afternoons, and speaking to them of the way of salvation. Some of these women took part in the annual week of witness. At Christmas time they sang the hymns they had learned, and each received a small gift.

Notes on Various Topics

THE number of capital cities in occupied countries liberated by the Allies has increased, and the last of Nazi satellite nations seems to be tottering. With the rejoicing at the recent successes is mingled much sorrow at the sad position of great hosts of people, notably in Greece, who are on the point of

The change in the nature of enemy propaganda has been as remarkable as it is cheering for the Allies and all who hope for world peace. The new broadcasts indicate a recognition of the failure of the aggressors' hopes of conquest and of the strength of the forces pressing in upon them.

Marshal Goering's latest statement is per-haps the quaintest of all the morale-making propaganda. He says that "Germany will receive help from her historic heroes in Valhalla, who return to earth whenever the Fatherland is endangered." Superstition is an unstable basis for hope.

Genius and Drudgery

The ratio of hard work to the genius which we attribute to those excelling in literature, science or the arts cannot be determined. has been credibly stated that once when Paderewski played before Queen Victoria, the sovereign exclaimed with enthusiasm, "Mr. Paderewski, you are a genius!" "Ah, your Majesty," he replied, "perhaps; but before I was a genius, I was a drudge." I do not for a moment suppose that any amount of hard work would turn me and the folk with whom I am wont to associate into geniuses; we lack the essential native gift or ability. But if we will only be faithful, work hard and improve our gifts, we shall be useful servants and receive the reward of our Lord. The great cause of failure is lack of striving.

The Better Way to Study

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, when asked by re-porters what she would like to do after she leaves the White House, replied, "I would like the job of visiting teachers' colleges in New York State. I want to help students to learn to love English literature, instead of studying it as a chore." That closing sentence ex-presses an aim which is dear to the hearts of many teachers. Some readers of this may recall painful experiences in getting up for examination some of the finest of our literature. The amassing of dry-as-dust facts related to the text ensured a pass while a love of literature was often unawakened. Study "as a chore" accounts in great part for postcollege neglect of our great authors. I am no advocate of the view that there must be no hard work in study-the "Einstein-without-tears" theory does not always work. But better teaching methods to arouse interest and lead to an appreciation of the glories of our literary heritage are more than desirable. The study of text-books written about a Shakespearean play is no substitute for a knowledge of the play itself. So with the greatest book in the world. To substitute commentaries for the text itself, to listen to discourses, however learned and eloquent, about the superlative merit of the biblical literature, comes far short of the ideal. A knowledge and love of the Bible itself is the thing greatly to be desired. This love and knowledge grow as we read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the choice language and incomparable teaching of the divine Word.

A. P. main.

Here and There

Owing to demands on space, we have been compelled to hold several church reports.

Victorian Council of Churches requests that, in all churches and in private devotions on Oct. 29, prayer be offered for rain.

We received the following telegram on Oct. 23: "Wonderful close to 21st anniversary celebrations, Hamilton, Newcastle, N.S.W. Three adult decisions.—Talbot."

From N.S.W. we received the following telegram on Oct. 23:- "More than three hundred attended opening Fairfield chapel; unprecedented time of fellowship .- Hinrichsen."

At Emerald, Vic., on Oct. 15, F. B. Alcorn resumed ministry after two weeks' absence through illness, during which R. McLean, of the College of the Bible, preached. Fellowship with Miss M. Best (Launceston) was enjoyed, and a solo by Mrs. J. B. Workman (Moreland) was ap-

R. Langley resigned from the office of superintendent of Sunday school at Montrose, Vic., on Oct. 16, after 44 years of faithful service. He has also been church secretary for 44 years, and the agent for church papers for 54 years, namely "A.C. Standard," "Pioneer" and "The Australian Christian." His years of service are much appreciated.

At a meeting addressed by R. Greenhalgh, youth director, it was decided to form a parents' and teachers' association at Marrickville, N.S.W. T. H. Scambler was speaker at morning service on Oct. 8 and R. Arnott took evening service in absence of Mr. Thomas at Tarce. Members have been grieved to hear of death of A. Francis, after a short illness.

W. Gale writes: "Thos. Hagger has been in touch with isolated brethren in various parts of the Mornington Peninsula, and has planned a meeting at Moorooduc for Tuesday evening, Oct. 31. The Home Mission Committee is now looking forward to annual offering on Dec. 3, and hopes churches will give this brotherhood offering the right-of-way during November."

Results of recent concerts given by Malvern Church of Christ Girls' Choir and the Malvern Concert Orchestra are as follow: St. Kilda church of Christ, in aid of church building and soldiers' parcels funds, £20; at Preston Town Hall, on behalf of Preston churches and Thornbury church, in aid of Christian Guest Home funds, £27. Town Hall was filled, and audience appreciated efforts of choir and

Those who intend to go to the public meeting in the Assembly Hall, Collins-st., Melbourne, on the afternoon of "Education Sun-(Oct. 29), are reminded that admittance will be by invitation card. This procedure is necessary because of considerable public interest in the meeting and the limited accommodation available in hall. Tickets will be sent to those who make application to secretary, the Council for Christian Education in Schools, 31 Queen-st., Melbourne.

In spite of all difficulties, prisoners-of-war in Europe have managed to establish churches in their barracks, where members of different denominations assemble weekly to conduct their own form of worship led by a visiting chaplain or fellow prisoner-of-war. Bibles, hymn-books and religious literature have been forwarded to prisoners-of-war by the Red Cross Society to assist them in their services. The Red Cross Society has also been sending the men food parcels, medical supplies, clothing, comforts and books.

At Ormond, Vic., a mission commenced on Oct. 15, with good meetings. Interest is increasing nightly. Building was filled on Oct. 18, and again on Oct. 22. H. M. Clipstone, L. E. Snow and W. W. McDowell give good messages. Choirs from Carnegie, Bambra-rd, and South Eastern Officers' Association as-

Soloists have been sist each week night. Soloists have been Val. Woff, Ron Lang, Steve Corlett, Mesdames Ferriss and Brody, and Misses Peg Fullerton and Elva Organ. Delegations have been wel-Hospital comed from numerous churches. Sunday offering was a record at £9/17/4.

Queensland conference president, C. F. Adermann, M.H.R., was speaker at 61st anniversary services of Ann-st., Brisbane, Qld., church, on At the family tea on following Tuesday night, the attendance was best for years. In a session of reminiscences by old members, it was found that, at the fewest, nine members with over 50 'years' churches of Christ mem-bership are on roll. The church secretary, A. H. Berlin, reviewed chief features of year's work, including coming of Mr. Hunting and the purchase of a manse. Arrangements have been completed for founding men's fellowship on Oct. 26.



Happy Snap of Conference Officers.

Left to right .- R. H. Wakeley, President N.S.W. Conference; H. E. Greenwood, Federal Secretary; C. F. Adermann, M.H.R., Federal President; (in front) S. C. Woolley, Secretary N.S.W. Conference. These brethren were executive officers of committees entrusted with responsibility of organising the helpful Federal Conference held in Sydney from Oct. 3 to 8.

1945 ALMANAC

THE almanac for 1945, with suggested read-I ings and hymns for Lord's day services, is This almanac is adorned with a fine reproduction of a beautiful painting of a chapel in an Australian country setting. The original work, entitled "A Sanctuary in the Hills," was painted by Alfred Coleman, a leading member of the Victorian Artists' Association, and an artist who has achieved considerable success in Melbourne in recent years. are indebted to him for his help, and we feel sure many will be anxious to have a reproduction of this work. Unless orders are given to agents immediately you may not be able to get a copy of the almanac later. Please order from your church secretary.

98th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

THE 98th church anniversary at Grote-st., Adelaide, will long be remembered by those privileged to be present. Oct. 14 was a "temple day," the aim being to clear remain-Oct. 14 was a. ing debt of £400. On Sunday morning it was possible to announce £450 in building fund; members sang heartily the doxology. On Saturday night an augmented choir, numbering 65 (including 9 instrumentalists), under baton of W. W. Watson, rendered magnificently a cantata, soloists being Mrs. D. R. McPhee, Mrs. E. Crowe, Miss Gwen Collett, C. K. Harrop, and John Ward. A. Glastonbury was organist, and Miss Gladys Mossop pianist. Those taking part were given an enthusiastic ovation at close, when Mr. Beiler moved a vote of thanks.

On Oct. 15, anniversary day, W. Beiler gave two inspiring addresses, and the choir rendered special singing at each service. A num-

ber of visitors were present, including Frank Walsh, R.A.A.F., home on leave. On Oct. 18, a free fellowship tea was provided, to which a free fellowship tea was provided, to which about 100 attended, and a happy time was spent with past and present members. At night the choir, under Mr. Watson, rendered a programme of negro spirituals, C. Schwab being narrator. On Oct. 20, church officers and their wives tendered a social evening to their cond believed before in recognition of their choir and helpers in recognition of their service to church.

SWAN HILL (VIC.) DISTRICT CONFERENCE THE annual district conference was held at Swan Hill, on Oct. 7, under chairmanship of J. Leach, of Ultima. Conference opened with a short devotional session conducted by H. I. Walmsley. It was decided to increase car fund by £45. Church and auxiliary reports from Swan Hill, Woorinen and Ultima revealed that a steady work had been maintained. Greetings were received from Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Pratt, of Ringwood-Mitcham, guests of conference, and from many isolated members. A. H. Pratt brought a message of encouragement and hope. The following resolution was carried:
"That this conference express its sympathy with our brethren in drought areas of this district, especially the Ultima church, and pledge ourselves to assist or relieve them in the matter of contributions to district work, and that this conference invite the churches at Swan Hill and Woorinen to contribute more to the district funds and to relieve Ultima if necessary." Officers elected for ensuing year were: President, D. A. Cockroft; vice-president, C. Mott; dent, D. A. Cockioli, The Fig. 19 and treasurer, F. R. Jermyn; committee, G. A. Mott, S. Harrop, S. Chappell, R. Thomas, R. Lawson, A. Anderson, A. Jeffery, J. Leach and R. Pryor. Over forty enjoyed basket tea, arranged by Swan Hill Women's Mission Band. A song service, led by F. R. Jermyn, preceded evening meeting, at which A. H. Pratt delivered an inspiring address, Mrs. J. Beer and F. R. Jermyn sang. Attendances at all sessions of conference were excellent. In response to annual conference appeal, over £100 was received in cash and promises.

"WEEK OF WITNESS" AT NORTH RICHMOND THE North Richmond (Vic.) church commemorated its 54th anniversary with a "week of witness." Beginning on Oct. 8, meetings were held each night (except Saturday) and concluded with anniversary social, on Oct. 17. It was aim of officers that members think, more earnestly about the Lord's demands on the whole of life. This aim was realised under leadership of Mr. Earle, preacher of Kaniva church. Each night he dealt with themes of The number in attendance on vital interest. week nights reached 90, and on anniversary Sunday over 160 assembled at evening service. On Oct. 17 the anniversary social was held. Testimonies in song were given by Mrs. C. Hall and E. McIlhagger, and Mrs. Trezise, and H. Graham spoke of the help received during the week of witness. S. G. Chipperfield, on behalf of the church, presented Mr. Earle with a token of appreciation.

ADDRESSES

Mr. A. D. Anderson (secretary Swan Hill church, Vic.) .- Post Office, Tresco.

Mr. G. Brooker (secretary Nedlands church,

W.A.).-16 Park-rd., Nedlands.

Miss J. Higgott (acting secretary Maylands church, W.A.).—25 Grafton-st., Bayswater. Mr. Harold Langley (secretary, Bendigo

church, Vic.) .- 17 Baxter-st., Bendigo.

Mr. A. A. McRoberts, preacher Maylands church, W.A.).—3 East-st., Maylands. U1354.

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News of the Churches

Queensland

Ipswich.—Sunday school anniversary, held on Oct. 8, was very successful. Mrs. C. Coward trained scholars, and conducted singing most ably. Much credit is due to her. C. J. Williams, of Kedross, was speaker for afternoon and night; both his addresses were enjoyed. D. Brock is leaving, and will unite with church at Mackay. Chaplain D. Wakeley was present on Oct. 15, and gave a very helpful exhortation. W. Jones is home from hospital.

South Australia

Prospect.—Ladies' guild held annual meeting with a good attendance; work of this auxiliary is encouraging. Services on Lord's day were conducted by A. E. Brown; good attendances at both meetings. In evening, Mrs. P. Ness was baptised. Miss Daphne Page and Paul Ness rendered solos. Fellowship with visitors and men in Services has been enjoyed.

Whyalla.—Since last report steady progress has been made. Mr. Matthews has reported on State conference. Messrs. Cox, Smith and Tregloan have helped with speaking during month. Fellowship has been enjoyed with F. Rogers (R.A.A.F.). Bro. Stevenson's health has slightly improved. Sister Mrs. Bishop is in hospital. Sunday school picnic was held on Eight Hours' Day, a large gathering of scholars, parents and friends being present.

Kadina.—Ladies' guild held an afternoon, arranged by Mrs. W. J. Ward, and raised £19 for furnishings of kinder room. Baptismal service was held on Oct. 8, and one was welcomed into fellowship. Roy Raymond, of Subiaco, W.A., a past worker, had fellowship during his vacation.

Was held on Oct. 15. Mr. Hammer, of Forestville, was preacher. Scholars, led by superintendent, C. E. Larcombe, sang special songs, accompanied by Mrs. R. Paterson (piano), and L. Trenwith (organ). On Oct. 16, the annual public meeting, Mr. Hammer spoke. A Bible, suitably inscribed, was presented to Mr. Larcombe. M. T. Lawrie commenced his fifth year of service with church on Oct. 8.

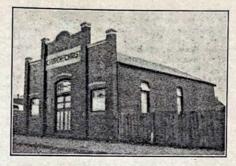
Cottonville.—Services continue to be well attended, and Mr. Brooke's messages have been inspiring. Ladies' Auxiliary has raised a further sum of £10 to be paid off church debt; the church has added another £10, reducing mortgage to £70. R. Berry and Mrs. Byrne sang solos at evening service on Oct. 1; Miss Hilda Shearing (solo), and Shirley and Margaret Gloyn (duet) assisted with messages in song on Oct. 8. Fellowship with E. Shearing, home on leave, was enjoyed. Mrs. Berry, sen., is in Royal Adelaide Hospital, and C. D. Miller is in Military Hospital, Daws Road. Bible school held monthly prayer meeting after school on Oct. 1. Miss Payne has relinquished, temporarily, superintendency of kindergarten; Mrs. John Coventry will deputise for six months. Helen McDonald, Maxine Hogben and Ruth Berry have been appointed to assist in kindergarten. One new scholar has been gained as result of "Faithful Fishermen" increase campaign.

Aldgate Valley.—Work prospers under able ministry of G. T. Fitzgerald; his messages are an inspiration. Attendances, especially at afternoon meetings, are excellent; on several occasions between 50 and 60 have communed. During winter gospel services were held on alternate Sundays, but now they are held weekly. Help of J. Hoyle, W. G. Oram and R. W. Knight at these meetings is appreciated.

Recent visits by C. Schwab, A. Anderson, H. E. Paddick and Miss Vawser have been enjoyed. Preparation is being made for church anniversary. All auxiliaries are working well. Bible school took part in Children's Day exercise; offering received went to Foreign Mission Department. All children who sat for scripture exam. passed. A special effort was put forth by Doreas sisters for centennial fund. An encouraging report of orphan boy supported by guild was given by Miss Vawser. Junior Christian Endeavor society has been awarded country banner again. C.E. superintendent organised a mystery hike and treasure hunt on Oct. 7. A surprise tea was prepared for C.E. and mothers. The day proved to be very happy; each junior was presented with a J.C.E. badge. R. Philp has been discharged from Services on account of ill-health. Other Servicemen home on leave have been R. L. Harslett and J. Shanks. News has been received of Pete Nation, who is a prisoner-of-war. W. Shanks is a patient in Royal Adelaide Hospital; his condition is satisfactory.

Tasmania

Devonport.—Meetings in September were helpful. Church appreciates faithful help of Messrs. A. C. Dean, Byard, R. Pitt and F. T.



The Devonport Chapel.

Burtt, who have preached at services morning and evening. Mrs. Hutson was welcomed home. Bible school is practising for anniversary under lead of Mrs. Wescombe.

Launceston (Margaret-st.).—During past fortnight, S. H. Wilson has been on a well-deserved holiday, services being conducted by local members (H. Nicholls, H. Clemmons, W. Duff and W. H. Brice). In preparation for the forthcoming temple day, prayer meetings are being held in homes of members. T. J. Wilmot has returned home from hospital.

New South Wales

Wagga Wagga.—Fellowship with visitors has been enjoyed. A. R. Main brought very fine messages to church during his visit. Mrs. Turnbull has made a wonderful recovery after a serious operation. Miss Tompson is a patient in Welwyn private hospital. Special offering received on Oct. 8, for liquidation of church property debt, reached aim.

Wollongong. Good meetings marked Sundays before Mr. Stirling's departure to holiday at Narrabeen. On Oct. 1, three were baptised, and two men made their confession. The following Sunday, the husband of one of those baptised, formerly associated with our work at Cessnock, was also received into fellowship. In evening two men were baptised. C.E. tendered a welcome home social to R. Jobson and K. Morgan, home on leave. A presentation was made to Mr. and Mrs. Morgan from C.E.

Paddington.—There was a good attendance at breaking of bread service on Oct. 15. Mr. Johnston was a welcome visitor, and gave a fine address. Bible school interests are good. School was presented with "A" shield at Bible schools' demonstration for work done at last examination. Practices are being held for S.S. anniversary. Mr. Wilson conducted gospel service, giving a stirring message.

Marrickville.—Reports at half-yearly church business meeting on Oct. 11 disclosed much good work being done by auxiliaries. Treasurer's statement showed that 26 per cent. of total receipts went to "others." E. Davis, of Auburn, exhorted on morning of 15th; Mr. Thomas preached in evening. Preparations for S.S. anniversary are in hand, a feature being a play written by Jessie Thomas.

Georgetown.—On Sept. 17, there were good attendances, the evening service being conducted by E. L. Slade-Mallen (Wallsend Prespective Content of the Content

Western Australia

Fremantle.—Among recent visitors have been Mr. Maddern, of Bordertown, S.A.; Roderick McKenzie, of Bendigo, Vic.; and Ken Voiles, of Woodland Heights church of Christ, Tennessee, U.S.A. Alan Verco, home for a short leave, has returned to East. Band of Hope held a successful social evening to mark first anniversary of service. This society is doing excellent temperance work. War Comforts Fund is just despatching some 40 parcels/to soldiers, sailors and airmen called up from among members and friends. Regarding sick folk, Mrs. Thomson is just now returning from "Hamsdale," Como, where she has improving during a period of convalescence. Mrs. Stenhouse is lying very sick at her residence in Duke-st., East Fremantle. The eldest son, Keith, has been brought home from New Guinea on compassionate leave. A recent British and Foreign Bible Society offering reached £7, as also did College of the Bible offering on Oct. 1.

Maylands.—Fortieth anniversary celebrations were successful. On Oct. 11, at thanksgiving service, J. Rhodes presided, and J. K. Robinson gave an inspiring address. E. R. Berry rendered two solos. Meeting carried comprehensive resolution of gratitude, which included appreciation of early witpess of Lakest. church. Young people produced an impressive Bible drama on 12th. Chaplain Harford, N.Z.E.F., preacher of N.Z. churches, gave a greeting. Ladies prepared splendid tea. At evening meeting pioneers were honored. Letters from absent past members were read. Church and school picnic at Maylands Oval, and youth social in evening on Oct. 14 were successful. At morning meeting of 15th, T. Peacock, in whose house the church was first established, presided. S. H. Rodier, one of first to preach in chapel, gave an address. Helpers were Albany Bell and C. Grist. All meetings were well attended. A souvenir history book has been published. Mrs. Toms and Mrs. Burdeu were present after serious operations.

Victoria

Newmarket .- On Oct. 8 Mr. Shuttleworth, of Essendon, presided, and Mr. Graham gave address. Mr. Graham addressed both services on Oct, 15.

Dimboola.—Messages are given by J. Butler, F. Sherriff and C. W. Jackel. Attendances are keeping up. Some members are helping in local sacred concert to assist unfortunate.

Bayswater.-At evening service on Oct. 1, Lorna Hansen and Gwen Rees were baptised after confession of faith, and received into fellowship on morning of 8th. N. G. Gavros preached morning and evening on Oct. 15.

Malvern-Caulfield.-A very successful concert was given by the Malvern Church of Christ Girls' Choir and the Malvern Concert Orchestra. Chapel was packed. Claude Gadge, conductor, handed to church secretary a cheque for £22 for hampers for the boys who are on service from the church.

Hamilton.-Recently received into fellowship by transfer are Mr. and Mrs. F. Kennett (Kaniva), also Mrs. Wilcox (Stawell). On Oct. 12, roll-call at W.M.B. showed 28 members present. Ladies are enthusiastic regarding their efforts to reduce building debt. A. E. Forbes is giving a series of chart addresses.

Ormond .- W. W. McDowell is giving good messages at midweek prayer meeting. three weeks literature was distributed, announcing mission. . Mission commenced on Oct. 15. W. W. McDowell gave a good message. V. Woff, of Cheltenham, sang two solos beautifully. Mrs. Patterson is still in Melbourne Hospital.

Carlton (Lygon-st.) .- There were good meetings on Oct. 22; 134 broke bread at morning service. C. G. Taylor preached morning and afternoon, and K. N. Barton at night. school started their new year well with five new scholars. Hospital offering has reached

Bentleigh.—At half-yearly business meeting reports showed work was being maintained. Visiting speakers over past eight weeks have been much appreciated. Bible school and kindergarten work is in good heart. Several new scholars have been gained during "Faithful Fishermen" campaign. Fellowship with several members in Services, home on leave, has been enjoyed. R. J. Anderson's messages have been much appreciated; at gospel service on Oct. 8, a man took his stand for Christ.

Prahran.-Monthly pleasant Saturday evening on Oct, 7 took form of games night. Mr. Burns spoke at both both services on Oct. 8 and Mrs. Howe rendered two solos. society held their meeting at home of Mr. and Mrs. Burns; a happy time of fellowship resulted. On 15th, morning meeting was again well attended. After evening service at which Mr. Burns was speaker and Miss Small the soloist, the monthly social hour was held in kinder hall. Bright singing of hymns from Alexander's book, and supper, served by the C.E., brought day to a happy close.

Horsham .- Interest and attendances are maintained, S.S. is holding a rally for new scholars. Miss Mabel Henry has been ill in Melbourne. A men's fellowship tea was held, when delegations were present from all Protestant churches. W. H. Rainey, B.A. (Commonwealth secretary B. & F.B. Society) told of his escape from France at time of capitulation. A young men's training class is studying Mr. Scambler's book on sermon building. A recent debate by class was much enjoyed. 58th church anniversary was held on Oct. 1. It was every-member-present Sunday. Membership now stands at 240. day yielded record sum of £239. Special gift

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Haven .- Meetings are better attended, an average of about 45 being present. In "Faithful Fishermen" rally, eight new scholars, including cradle roll members, have been won. C. W. Jackel is assisted by C. Sherriff, G. Miller and J. Butler. H. Feary is training children Two enjoyable socials have for anniversary. been held. On Oct. 15 there were 51 present.

Warragul.-Church is enjoying messages of four well-known speakers for one month of special meetings. B. J. Combridge, of Preston, spoke on Oct. 8, and L. E. Snow on Oct. 15. Miss B. Waters and Miss N. Keatley have rendered solos. Two members of Bible school, who had made good confession, when Mr. Baker, was speaker, were baptised on evening of 15th. Mrs. Hinkley, a regular attender before her illness, has now turned 90 years af age.

SUCCESSFUL MISSION

TEN RECEIVED INTO FELLOWSHIP

SHEPPARTON.—Following mission with K. Macnaughtan, Geelong, ten were received into fellowship on Oct. 1. Each was presented with a New Teslament on behalf of church. gospel service on Oct. 8, a young lady was haptised. Y.P.S.C.E. continues to have helpful fellowship. On Oct. 13, at the Triangle Club, C. Hemming gave an illustrated message. Mr. and Mrs. Stone, sen., and A. Stone, of Maylands, S.A., were received into fellowship on Oct. 15.

Montrose.-Annual business meeting of church was held on Oct. 10, when reports from auxiliaries showed everything to be in fine order. The treasurer's report showed that finances were in a very sound position. Sunday school is also a pleasing feature of work. Scholars on roll and in attendances were best for a considerable time. Election of officers resulted in all officers being re-elected, excepting Sunday school superintendent, E. Fisher, present preacher, being elected as superintendent in place of R. Langley. Mr. Fisher's work in district is much appreciated, and church has engaged him for another year.

Camberwell.-J. Abercrombie and T. Westwood preached helpfully on Oct. 1 and 7, R. L. Williams being absent at Federal conference in Sydney. Four members represented Victorian brotherhood at conference. On Oct. 15 the communion service was well attended; at gospel service four Bible school scholars responded after Mr. William's address, and made the good confession. A young people's society has been commenced, under leadership of B. Huntsman and E. Lewis. Bible school, Good Companions, 1st and 2nd degree, and Explorers clubs are in a healthy condition. Parcels and reading matter are sent regularly to young men in Forces through L. Lawrey.

North Richmond.-The 54th anniversary services were well attended, showing results of preparatory work of previous weeks. Con-gratulations are extended to Keith Dexter and Church Doris Shepherd on their marriage. much enjoyed fellowship with H. G. Earle in special services. Junior boys' cricket club is enjoying fellowship in churches of Christ association. Sympathy is extended to John Bombadier, of kindergarten, who met with a motor accident, and is in Children's Hospital. Preparations are well advanced for school picnic. R. Voss has been elected a deacon. On 22nd Doreen Spittle confessed Christ. Dorothy Fal-conbridge has recovered sufficiently to be infellowship again.

Gardiner.-T. H. Scambler was morning speaker on Oct. 1, and in afternoon and evening S.S. anniversary services were continued. Prizes and cradle roll cards were distributed in afternoon. A. White gave illustrated address to children at night. Annual concert was given by scholars on Oct. 4. In absence

of Mr. Scambler at Federal conference on 8th, Trevor Morris spoke at both services, and at men's fellowship meeting and tea. Fred Levett assisted with solos. Men of church have formed men's fellowship to meet monthly, T. H. Scambler, president; C. E. Daff, vice-president; and H. E. Bell, secretary, being officers. On Oct. 15 Miss Roxburgh was present at morning service, and told of work being done at Norseman, W.A. T. H. Scambler preached at evening service. Five main churches in district have combined to hold five united intercessory prayer services in Burke-rd. Methodist chapel.

Hampton.-A successful exhibition of teachers' and scholars' work marked conclusion of S.S. anniversary. On Oct. 9, ladies' choir gave an enjoyable concert in aid of ladies' guild. C. L. Lang addressed both services on Oct. 16, and a male choir assisted at evening service. As the preacher is on holiday, W. D. Lang and T. R. Morris, of Brighton, were speakers on Oct. 22. The loan on building has been reduced by £200. Secretary of church, D. E. Pittman, is recovering slowly after a serious operation; Mrs. Carnaby shows a slight improvement, but is still very ill.

Drumcondra.—On Sept. 25, M. Symes (morning) and Ralph Moore, B. & F. Bible Society, (evening) were speakers. There was a lantern lecture following gospel service. Wilkie, of Ballarat, helped church at anniversary service on Oct. 2. Bible school continues to have excellent attendances; aeroplane competition interests children. Mr. and Mrs. Methven have commenced second year of service. Members appreciate greatly their untiring efforts during past year, when eleven converts were added to church. On Oct. 22, Protestant and Orange Lodges held a parade at night, when Mr. Methven gave a powerful message. During past year, ladies' aid contributed £150 toward building debt reduction.

West Preston.-While attendances at combined churches' mission held in chapel, Oct. 8 and 15, were not as large as anticipated, the splendid preaching of Messrs. Barnet, Combridge and Grainger was greatly appreciated, as also was the work of visiting choirs and soloists. Chapel was filled for thanksgiving day services on Oct. 15, when Reg Enniss was speaker. A thankoffering of £142 for future development work was received in evening. Mr. Withers delivered the message. Chapel was again filled on morning of the 22nd, when Mr. Leeder, from Baptist church, was the speaker. The Hospital Sunday offering amounted to £17. Mr. Barnet, of East Preston, was speaker at gospel service, taking place of Mr. Withers, who was opening speaker at mission. was opening speaker at mission services com-menced at East Preston. Girls' club was again runners-up in basket ball competition.

Bendigo.-S.S. anniversary, held on Sept. 26, was a great success. There were splendid audiences, both afternoon and evening, when Denzil Ritchie gave illustrated messages which were much appreciated. Sudden illness of Mrs. Methven, who had trained the children, was much regretted. Alf Pollock kindly took her Usual sessions of tea, concert and distribution of prizes were held on following Wednesday, when superintendent of school, Mr. Duus, was in charge. At a well-attended special church business meeting on Oct. 4, Messrs. Kinley, Langley, Brewer, Perl and Briggs were elected to board of deacons; Messrs. Langley and Perl, joint secretaries, and Mr. Kinley, treasurer. Mr. Mathieson conducted a special service on Oct. 8, when brethren were set apart to their office. Church regrets passing of Miss Mason on Oct. 7; she had been a faithful member. Under leadership of Harold Lacy, the J.C.E. held a mystery picnic on Oct. 14. Letters of appreciation have been sent to Messrs, L. Vafiopulous and Alf Pettigrove for their help as officers. On Oct. 19, ladies' auxiliary held a special afternoon, speaker being Mrs. J. E. Wright, from Korea.

WANTED

A good home for suitable elderly woman in exchange for light duties.-Miss Goode, 66 Kenilworth-rd., Parkside, S.A.

Christian family desires house at seaside or country from Dec. 23 or 25 to Jan. 6. Willing to pay £5 and also loan modern suburban home, H.W.S., etc., handy to transport, for same period. By letter to T.F.T., c/o Austral.

Cowandilla (S.A.) church of Christ K.S.P. wishes to buy, or borrow, for a few months, from any South Australian church, gymnastic Reply to G. Simons, 11 Talbotequipment. st., Hilton, S.A.

Furnished house, accommodate 8 adults, Dec. 23 to Jan. 6, hills or seaside.—A. Allen, 5 Boronia-st., Surrey Hills.

Six metal music stands, folding type, Malvern Church of Christ Girls' Choir.—Claude Gadge, 27 Northcote-rd., Armadale. U3029.

TO LET

Hampton, Melbourne. Furnished flat, one Hampton, Melbourie. Furnished liat, one minute station and beach. Separate kitchen. Book now for a seaside holiday. No vacancies Christmas or January.—"Thalassa," 23 Orlandost., Hampton. XW1438.

Vacant until Dec. 16, two rooms, use of kitchen, gas, electric light. Close station, beach, shops. Accommodate 4 or 5 persons.—E. Marriott, 1 Blantyre-ave., Chelsea.

BIRTH

HARWARD (nee Rene Flood).—On Sept. 25, to Sgt. and Mrs. A. L. Harward, 29 Laycock-rd., Penshurst, N.S.W.-a son (Brian Grosvenor).

DEATH

LACY.-In fond remembrance of Sarah Grace (Allic), who fell asleep in Jesus Oct. 29, 1943.

—Inserted by her loving husband, S.G., and daughter, Rosa.

IN MEMORIAM

BROWN.—In loving memory of my devoted husband, Walter, who was called to higher service on Oct. 24, 1939.

Beautiful memories of one so dear, I treasure deeper year by year.

-Inserted by his loving wife. BROWN .- A tribute to our dear father, called home suddenly on Oct. 24, 1939.

Cheerful smile and heart of gold,

A father whose worth can never be told. -Inserted by Ruby, Alma, Dorrie, Ivy and Will. ELLIOTT.—In loving memory of my dear father, Frederick C. Elliott, late of Hobart, who passed to be with his Lord on Oct. 26, 1933; also my loving mother, Emily E. Elliott, who

passed to be with her Lord on Oct. 23, 1941. Although they have passed on, we still love and remember them, and wait for that happy day when we shall all be united with them and all our loved ones in the mansions our heavenly Father has prepared for all those who love him.

-Inserted by loving son, Jack, daughter-inlaw, Jean, and granddaughter, Nita.

FOREMAN.-In loving memory of my dear wife and our loving mother, who departed this life on Oct. 26, 1941. Always remembered by what she has done.

-Inserted by loving husband and family.

COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 29 and NOVEMBER 5, 1944 (Sundays) .- Announcing South Melbourne Church of Christ Bible school anniversary celebrations, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Special singing by scholars. Special messages. A cordial invitation extended.

NOVEMBER 12 (Sunday).-Frankston S.S. anniversary. 3 p.m., T. A. Fitzgerald; 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., T. Hagger. Singing conductor, J. A. McKenzie. You are invited!

NOV. 3 (Friday).-Swanston-st., 2 p.m., Victorian Women's Conference Executive Council will meet Leader of devotions, Mrs. Wickham. Home mission speaker, Mr. T. Hagger.

BROADCAST SERVICE

Church of Christ, Hamilton, broadcast over 3HA, 11 a.m. communion service, Oct. 29. Speaker, A. E. Forbes.

LYGON STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST. NEW CENTURY BIBLE CLASS.

Every Sunday at 3 p.m.

"THEIRS WAS THE VICTORY." Speaker, Mr. C. G. Taylor, B.A.

Oct. 29-The Maid of Orleans-Joan of Ark (1412-1431).

Nov. 12.—Reformer in Florence - Girolamo Savonarola (1452-1498).

Nov. 5 .- Home-coming Day. Guest speaker, Principal A. H. Wood, M.A., B.D.

MALVERN-CAULFIELD CHURCH OF CHRIST, Cr. of Alma and Dandenong-rds.,

Every Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock during the month of October.

Special talks on

DISPENSATIONAL TRUTHS.

are enlightening, encouraging, and illustrated by colored chart. Speaker, Mr. Gadge. Everybody welcome.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, QUEENSTOWN. 75TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICES. SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29.

11 a.m., W. L. Ewers, 7 p.m., W. C. Brooker. TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31. 8 p.m., Young People's Service.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1. 8 p.m., Musical Programme Provided by Grote-st. Church Choir. Address, W. Beiler.

HARTWELL CHURCH OF CHRIST BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY. OCTOBER 29-

Morning-Mr. R. L. Williams. Afternoon-Kindergarten Service. Evening-Mr. C. J. Robinson.

Anniversary Concert-Tuesday Oct. 31.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST EASTERN DISTRICT WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

will hold

AN AUSTRALIAN TEA at the RINGWOOD TOWN HALL (Small hall).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4. Opened at 2.45 p.m. Various stalls.

Proceeds to be divided between Box Hill and District Hospital, and Oakleigh Guest Home Hospital.

ST. GEORGE'S RD., NORTH FITZROY. PLEASANT SUNDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 5, 3 p.m.

Speaker, Mr. Bertram T. Lazarus, Subject, "Can Australia Learn Anything from Russia?"

Solos and duets by Miss Freda Treweek and Mr. Newstead Rush.

BLACKBURN CHURCH OF CHRIST. TEMPLE DAY SERVICES, NOVEMBER 5.

11.15 a.m., F. T. Morgan.

3 p.m., Pleasant Sunday afternoon. E. L. Williams, "Christianity and Communism."

7.15 p.m., C. H. J. Wright.

DAWSON ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST, BALLARAT, BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY,

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1944.

Services for day, 11 a.m., 3 p.m., and 7 p.m. Special speaker for day, Mr. J. Wiltshire, of Western Australia,

LYGON ST. CHURCH. HOME-COMING SUNDAY, NOV. 5.

11 a.m., C. G. Taylor, B.A.

3 p.m., Principal A. H. Wood, M.A., B.D.

7 p.m., C. B. Nance-Kivell, B.S. Litt., B.D. Soloist, Miss Amelia Scarce.

Three memorable services.

Luncheon and tea provided. Former members and friends urged to come.

Under the auspices of Lygon-st., Y.P.S.C.E.,

A PICTORIAL LECTURE of the scenic district of Lorne will be given by

Mr. C. L. Lang, preceded by an organ recital by Miss M. E. Pittman,

on SATURDAY, NOV. 18, 1944, at 8 p.m., in the LYGON ST. CHAPEL. Donation, 1/-.

In aid of C.E. Appeal for Christian Guest Home Hospital,

CHURCH OF CHRIST, PARKDALE

Nov. 19-11 a.m. and 7 p.m., R. L. Williams. Nov. 20 - 23 .- Special Services each evening at 8 p.m., with R. L. Williams, Nov. 26.—"Home-Coming" Day. R. L. Williams,

Pray! Come!

Speaker.

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- (2) A female Deputation Secretary for South Australia, part of Victoria and Tasmania.

The above positions involve the organising and carrying out of City and Country deputation activities. Salaries to be agreed upon, and, in addition, all expenses for hospitality and travelling incurred will be provided.

Enquiries and applications should be addressed to The General Secretary, Sudan United Mission,

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The Australian Christian October 25, 1944 Page 513

An Education for Citizenship

In Queensland the need of raising standard of education has been discussed. Our

correspondent, P. C. D. Alcorn, B.A., also refers to social ills and "communionism."

ARCHBISHOP TEMPLE, in the Beckly Lec-ture, "Social Witness and Evangelism," stresses that "the Christian will press for full educational opportunity for all till maturity is reached, which is never earlier than the sixteenth birthday, and will do what he can to secure that' the education provided is inspired by faith in God, and finds its focus in worship." Mr. A. K. Thomson, the new president of the Queensland Teachers' Union, believes that the best education will not be imparted to children till teachers are paid a salary commensurate with their training and the importance of their work. Mr. Holdaway, at a Christian Social Order Convention, expressed the opinion that more stress should be placed on cultural subjects and less on such subjects as mathematics. It is encouraging to notice that following a lead given in the recent English Education Bill, the need for religious instruction in all schools is beginning to be recognised. There is some hope that in the future schools will begin every school day with an act of corporate worship. We should welcome every move that will give us a religious education and an educated religion.

Communionism or Communism?

Canon Maynard, of Melbourne, has been with us, and has given us his understanding of communism and socialism. Under both communism and socialism private ownership of means of production disappeared. Under socialism people might be paid according to the worth of their services to the community, but under communism they received payment He claimed that the equal to their needs. principles of communism were laid down in the Bible. He added that in society there were conservatives and progressives, but it was the function of the church to hold them together.

Principal Trigge holds that communionism was a much better word than communism. Society should not be regarded as a mass of individuals, but as a realm of sociability, the essence of which was fellowship.

Social Evils

Since the beginning of the year, a marked increase in divorce has been noted in the southern division of Queensland. A bill now before the State Parliament to amend the divorce laws by reducing the period of desertion from five to three years is opposed by Anglican and Roman Catholic church lead-"Separation may be necessary to give relief from extreme hardship, but this does not carry with it the right to contract another so-called marriage," is how Bishop Dixon expressed the Anglican viewpoint.

There were 1493 illegitimate children born in Queensland last year, an increase of 575 compared with the previous year's total. Of the number, 269 were born to married women and 371 to de facto wives. "The law recognises abortion as one of the most serious' crimes, but, unfortunately, it appears to be very prevalent," said Mr. Justice Macrossan in passing a sentence.

During the twelve months ended June 30 last, the income from the sales of Golden Casket tickets was £2,560,000 compared with £1,514,975 the previous year. This represents an increase of over one million pounds in-

vested in the lottery. Prize-winners received about eightpence of every shilling invested, the hospitals threepence.

The Missionary's Qualifications

Bishop Cranswick has reminded us that Australians come from a race which has been the greatest christianising influence on earth. As the war ends, we shall be challenged to declare before the whole world our attitude to our colored neighbors. We can either exploit them or treat them as God's children. Professor Elkin, on the same subject, said that only A1 men and women were fitted for missionary work. First requirements were devotion and good health, but these must be supported by a sound education and first-class ability and understanding.

"Eternal Light!"

A HYMN FOR NOVEMBER-No. 13, NOV. 5.

IN a volume published in 1848, the author speaks of "a Light from heaven which discovers secrets, divine and human, lays open the holy of holies of both God and man, reveals the hidden things belonging to both." Meditating on that passage, many would today turn naturally to a hymn conveying the same idea and addressed to the "Eternal Light" within whose "searching sight" the souls of men may be tested. Although written on different subjects, the figure in the prose and the poetry is the same . . . and they come from the same author!

Thomas Binney was an unusual man. Lacking formal training for the ministry-in fact, with very little education and hurried at an early age into the commercial world-he yet developed such mental and spiritual powers as, combined with great determination and a wide knowledge of men and affairs, brought him to the very forefront of the Nonconformist ministry, with a forty year term at the King's Weigh House, London, as its climax. His direct influence was tremendous, but for many years it could also be said that "hundreds of men are preaching Christ's gospel more truly, broadly, nobly and lovingly through the inspiration of the Weigh House pulpit." figure of light was again used to summarise aptly his life and ministry. "He was a burning and a shining light, and we rejoiced to walk in his light.

By the services he himself conducted and by his writings, he did much to raise the standard of worship generally; his qualities of leadership took him twice to the chair

of the Congregational Union; he won great respect among other bodies also. Because of the rare oratorical gifts shown in his sermons and the logic and lucidity with which he handled doctrinal matters, much was published from his pen. Of poetry, he claimed to have written "cartloads," but nothing whatever seems to have really survived except "Eternal Light! Eternal Light!" This hymn of remarkable originality and force was, with others, often on his lips in the last days of his life, and will long remain a fit memorial to a man who, like his hymn, was "of remarkable originality and force."

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Church of Christ, Falcon-st., Crows Nest, Sydney. Queensland:—H. W. Hermann, Milman-

st., Eagle Junction, N.3.

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

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The Australian Christian

The Home Circle

GOD AND MAN

"T AM a man, and suffering Has tried me, body, spirit, soul. Thou, too, wert man, and thou hast plumbed

The heights, the depths, Love's wondrous whole.

"And so thou feelest all we feel, And more-for thou didst bear the load Of the whole world upon thy heart, Until it broke-and thou wert God."

-J. Oxenham.

STILL A CHRISTIAN

WE are afraid to declare our religion. Canon Liddon tells of a dinner that was held in London fifty years ago, in one of the finest houses of the prosperous metropolis. The gentlemen of the party had been speaking in terms dishonoring of our Lord; one of the guests was quiet; in a pause of the conversation he asked that the bell might be rung, then he requested that his carriage might be called. and then with the finished polish and courtesy of a gentleman he explained the reason of his departure, saying to his host, "For I am still a Christian." That gentleman was the late Sir Robert Peel, Prime Minister of England. No argument could have been so effective, no eloquence could have gained the point as that one instance of personal faithfulness gained We should show to our age that we have some religious conscience, some religious loyalty. To be indifferent is to crucify the Son of God; to let judgment go by default is to betray him and to pierce him with five more wounds, and crush more deeply into his throbbing temples the sharp and cruel thorn. Son of man, prephesy, prophesy! To this high duty, to this splendid responsibility are we called.

NOT TAKING ANY RISK

"George," said Mrs. Lovewell to her husband, "I have received a letter from mother saying she is not accepting our invitation to visit us and saying we do not appear to want her. What does she mean by that? I asked you to write and tell her to come at her own convenience. You wrote to her, didn't you?" "Yes," said George, "but—er—I couldn't spell that word convenience, so I made it 'risk.'"

The Family Altar

TOPIC.—THE CHOICEST ORNAMENT

Oct. 30-Prov. 1: 1-9.

" 31—Prov. 4: 1-15. Nov. 1—Rom. 12: 19-21.

2-2 Tim. 2: 14-26.

3-Titus 3: 1-11.

4-1 Pet. 3: 1-12.

5-Psalm 34; 1 Pet. 3: 13-22.

THE ornament recommended by Peter is a the most costly jewels; yet, it is feared, not generally sought. A popular practice consists of "make-up"—outward adornment; but this concerns character, and consists of the cultivation of "a meek and quiet spirit," which, in the long run, proves infinitely more satisfying to self and attractive to others. It is the most beautiful "ornament of grace unto the head and chain about the neck." It is "the chain of the chaplet of all the virtues." No 'make-up" lasts long, and even diamonds will "have their day and cease to be"; but this ornament of grace will be worn by Christians in our Father's home for ever.

FOR SALE.

Fruit trees, good kinds, 2/6 each, 24/doz.; stronger, 3/- each. Grape Vines, Rhubarb, 9/- doz. Gooseberry, Logans, 6/doz. For quick results fruit this season plant Strawberries, 3/6 100; Raspberries, Asparagus, 2/6 doz. 2/6 doz., 12/6 100. Variegated Privet Hedge, 4/6 doz., 30/- 100. Good Shrubs, including Boronia and Azalea, 2/6 each. Genistas, Robinia, Speraca, Grevillea, Ceratostigma, 1/6 each. Large ornamental trees, 2/6 to 5/- each.—A. G. NIGHTINGALE and CO., NURSERY, EMERALD, VICTORIA.

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December 3

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NOV. 14, 15, 18, 21, 24, 25, 28, DEC, 1, 2.

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NOV. 12, 19, 26, DEC. 3.

Your prayer and help are requested.

Prayer circle meets daily, Mildmay Room, 262 Flinders-lane, 12 o'clock to 2 o'clock.

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For further information apply to the Secretary, United Evangelistic Committee (Campaigners for Christ, Mildmay Movement, and Evangelisation Society of Australia), 262 Flinders-lane, Melbourne. 'Phone, F1117.

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And when we are genuinely Christian, we are convinced that for people of all nations there is a way into the rich, white, wholesome life of to-day and of the ages to come. It is the way of a daring identification with Christ, whatever may come.-G. J Andrews.

THOUGHT

"No conscience can prescribe or act for another."

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