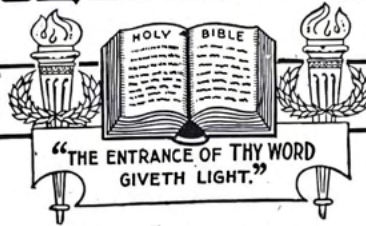


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Man's Past Failure; His Future Hope

WHEN the bridge that spans Sydney Harbor was completed, people from all parts of the Commonwealth came to see it. That great achievement of engineering skill aroused the just admiration of Australians, and they pronounced it to be good.

Let a man make a garden in which there are well-trimmed lawns and hedges and varied-colored flower patches, and he will delight to acknowledge that his beautiful creation is good. To have pride in one's good workmanship is not a human weakness, but a godly virtue. It seems that it is not given to animals nor to birds to enjoy the feeling of admiration associated with a noble creation. But since God has made man above the animals, and has created him like unto himself, he is, in many respects, the very image of his Father, God. Thus man is able to make and to appreciate good things.

In the opening chapter of the Book of Genesis, it is recorded that God looked upon his great creative acts, and six times he pronounced them to be "good," and once to be "very good." (See Moffatt's Translation.)

The Lord was proud when he looked upon the skill, beauty and harmony revealed in the starry heavens. The craftsmanship required to design, to color and to make function birds, reptiles, fishes, flowers, animals, is an ability all may desire to possess. The Lord above possesses it in perfection. The results of his skill and wisdom in the creation of the universe were well-pleasing to him, and he acknowledged them to be good. It seems therefore to be a part of the nature of God to take a delight in his own handiwork and to declare it to be good.

When the Lord reviewed his final act of creation and looked upon man, he considered him to be "very good." Of all the creatures, man was the only one to have a body designed well enough to stand erect and to use the hands skilfully. What marvels man has designed and brought into being because he can use his hands well! By means of his hands he has built houses, made machines to help to build engines, aeroplanes, electric equipment, and, in short, all those things making up modern civilisation. But behind those hands there is the human mind. Because man has such a mind, he has been able to bring under his control all other creatures on earth and much power within the universe.

In addition the Lord has given to man the quality of soul that is able to appreciate what is good. In this man has become like God; in fact, he has become a god, for not only can he make things that are good, but he has, like God, the

ability to appreciate them and to see that they are good. If a person comes to know what is good, he will learn next what is evil. Man has learnt, without a doubt, what is evil.

There is another fact that causes man to stand supreme in God's creation. Not only was he given the ability to make things for his use and to recognise what is good in the universe and then evil; but it was granted him to be free to choose for himself the ways of life that are good or evil. Man was made a creature with the power to choose between right and wrong. Thus man, unique in body, mind and spirit, was acknowledged by God to be the greatest of his works; and therefore the Lord considered him to be "very good."

It was because man could be judged "very good" that he was liable to become "very evil." In making man with the power to act freely something of a risk was taken. Would man, like God, although coming to know what is good and evil, always choose to do the good, and thus continue to be "very good" in the sight of God, or be like Satan and always choose evil, although knowing what is good! Alas! man chose to do evil in the sight of the Lord. Man was not then "very good" but "very evil." Then it grieved the Lord that he had created man (Gen. 6: 6).

Looking back over the past year, we cannot look upon man's achievements and pronounce them to be good. Much of the great power of body and of mind granted to him has been turned from noble and good ends and has been devoted to evil. Instead of looking upon our works with admiration and of speaking of them as being "very good," we deplore the way man has gone and we consider him to be "very evil" in the sight of God. We are so depressed by the evil actions of man toward man, we should despair of him if it were not for the love of God. The one ray of hope is God's mercy. Despite God's regret for man's evil behaviour, he maintains a great love for his own creation. To save what has been lost in the ruins of sin, God's act of love has been unfolded. In the fulness of time he sent forth his Son. No text of scripture expresses the significance of the event celebrated at Christmas better than the Master's words, who said, "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Through Christ, God is seeking to win men back from their evil ways so that once more they may devote all their energies, gifts and powers to some noble purpose. It is his aim that once again he may look upon man made new in Christ and say: "Well done, good and faithful servant, . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."



The Decisive Babe

H. G. Norris, of Unley, S.A., presents
a Christmas message of hope and
light to those living in the darkness
of this age of sin.

FOR the first time for several years some of us on return from active service will experience Christmas in civilian life. Much as the Serviceman desires his discharge from the Services, he yet meets disappointment because of the selfishness and sectional interests so apparent in Australian civilian life. So the Christmas message brings encouragement and hope and guidance to us all, and especially to those we welcome home from the Services for this Christmas.

Christmas is a personal reminder that "God is with us," and therefore the best is yet to be; that the darkness of all sin—of strife and selfishness—must give place to the dawning of a new and brighter day when men return to the guidance of Christ. That is the Christmas message of hope which Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist, passes on to us in Luke 1: 78, 79—

"The dayspring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

Let us look past the festivities to the heart of this Christmas message as seen by the old prophet.

I. His words describe

The Work Christ Came to Do

The message of Christmas is that Jesus came to bring light "to them that sit in darkness," life to those "in the shadow of death," and peace to those who will be "guided" by him.

Christmas will be more than a mere temporary truce; with reality it will bring its joys to us when we heed its real message.

Christ came at Christmastide "to bring light to them that sit in darkness." "Them that sit in darkness." Such was the real condition of the race before Jesus was born. Life was cold and faith was numbed. Life had lost its true proportions. In the darkness things appear "distorted and terrifying to men. Well, such was the world into which Jesus came. And he came "to give light." "Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem"—"the dayspring from on high visited us." The Babe of Bethlehem is likened to the dawning of light upon a sin-darkened world. He came as "the dayspring," the beginning of a day which shall yet rejoice in eternal light and hope and truth.

How different is life when lived in the light of Christ! He makes life full and rich. He lightens our understanding and shows us ourselves, our brothers and God.

A few years ago we saw a striking Christmas card called, "If Christ had not come." It showed a preacher falling asleep in his study on Christmas morning and dreaming that

Christ had not come, He looked through his home, but there were no signs of joy, no little Christmas stockings, nothing to cheer and gladden. He returns to his study, and all his best-loved books about Jesus Christ have disappeared. He passes out into the street; there is no church building to tell of God. He goes to visit a dying mother, but as he opens his Bible it ends at Malachi. There is no real comfort and promise of eternal life. Then he awakes to hear the choir singing in the chapel:

"O come, all ye faithful, joyfully triumphant,
To Bethlehem hasten now with glad accord!
Lo! in a manger lies the King of angels;
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!"

Oh, the happiness of Christmastide! The note of joy is sounded out at this season because the light has come, the darkness of evil gives place to Christ. No wonder the angel said, "I bring you good tidings of great joy." There is no happiness comparable with the joy of salvation. At this Christmastide let there be light in our homes. Don't leave Christ out of the festivities.

Christ has come to bring light and life to them that "sit in darkness and the shadow of death."

To Joseph the angel said, "Thou shalt call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins."

Some of us at this season turn our hearts sadly to a place in God's acre yonder where a loved one, a comrade true, gave life itself for us. The Christmas message lifts us above morbid fears and gloom to victory. The Life-giver grants strength to us, enabling us to live his abundant life and prove worthy of the life laid down. So when sorrows are near Christmas has its message for us.

Christ has come "to guide us to peace."

The herald angels sang at his birth, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill among men." The prophet Isaiah calls Jesus "the Prince of peace."

With deep gratitude we thank God for the end of this war, but we recognise that real peace has yet to be won—when the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man shall be recognised and obeyed throughout the world. We are not blind to the deplorable spirit of distrust and selfishness which estranges employer and employee in Australian life. We are called as Christians to radiate a spirit of peace and goodwill. At this festive season and throughout the years may we allow Christ to guide our feet to ways of peace so that we may show others the way to real love and brotherhood.

It is well to note that peace comes only among men of goodwill, men in whom God is well pleased. Christ must be permitted to guide individuals in all our ways if peace is to come in our industrial and civic affairs. Peace can only come from Christ. Peace is

the result of the gospel in every soul that receives it. Let us work for the time

"When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendor fling,
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing."

Be it ours to yield to Christ and to follow him who is the Prince of peace. As we yield to the Babe of Bethlehem, we find in him the Revealer of God and our duties to each other, the Redeemer and the Peace-bringer, making peace between men by uniting all men in one family as God's children.

II. The words of Zacharias point to another aspect of the Christmas message—

The Manner of Christ's Coming

He came as "the dayspring"—as the gentle dawn, as a tiny Babe. H. E. Fosdick reminded us in the war years that "Christmas suggests how much more decisive a baby can be than a battle."

When Jesus was born men were inclined to think that the decisive elements in the world's life were centred in Caesar Augustus upon the throne and the vast power of Roman armies. As for a tiny Babe born in Bethlehem, who would have thought that over 1900 years later we would sing—

"Yet in thy dark street shineth
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee to-night."

Indeed, how transient in the world's history have been the effects of battles, and how much more permanent has been the effect of the Babe. Caesar perishes. His empire crumbles. Civilisations rise and fall, but still we sing—

"O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray,
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us to-day."

But we must allow Christ to be the decisive Babe in our own lives if we are to know the true message and joy of Christmas. Unless he is born in us our souls are still forlorn. He comes still, "the dayspring," the gentle dawn, to lead us into the light of life.

III. Here in our Christmas message we are reminded of

How We May Receive Christ

"The dayspring from on high hath visited us." Behind these words we see that he is ready to enter our lives.

He is called "the dayspring"—the dawn, the sunrise. Now since Christ is "the dayspring" we do not have to coax him as an unwilling guest to enter into our life's experience. We have no more to coax him than the sunrise. When the sun rose this morning all we needed to do to fill our homes with warmth and light was to open the doors and lift the window blinds. And that is what we have to do this Christmastide to have Jesus, the Sun of Righteousness, the Babe of Bethlehem, as our guest. We need to open the door of our willingness and he will visit and abide with us.

The pathos of that first Christmas grips us still. The mass of people missed the joys of that birth. They failed to share the joy of herald angels, seeking wise men, and adoring shepherds, because they had no room for him. They were not willing to receive him. The tragedy of this Christmas season centres here. There are too many who will celebrate at this time in feasting and drinking such as they do not allow themselves at any other time of the year, but who still have "no room" for Jesus.

(Continued on back page.)

The Church Spiritual

I. The Unity of the Spirit

THE great work of the Holy Spirit is to reveal Jesus to the believer. Yet the Spirit does his work without obtruding his own personality. Either through the written Word or by thought and suggestion, it seems, the Spirit presents the mind of Christ to his followers. The Spirit is our Advocate (parakletos), making intercession (enteuxsis) for the believer (Rom. 8: 26). The Spirit then is the channel of communication between us and the living Christ. It is only as our spirits are enveloped in his Spirit, however, that we can fully appreciate the mind and the will of the risen Lord.

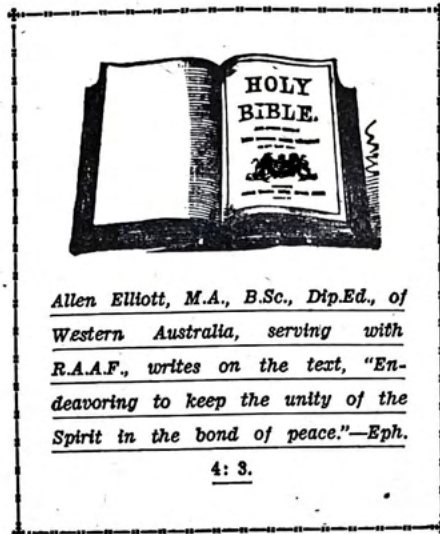
It is not too much to say that despite outward divisions in the Christian church, there is nevertheless a great body of his followers manifesting this unity of spirit referred to by the apostle. Such groups of professing Christians do exist who are united in spirit and who earnestly endeavor to maintain that unity "in the bond of peace." We read that "by their fruits ye shall know them." Therefore it seems reasonable to suppose that the degree of unity of the spirit manifest among believers may be rightly judged by the extent to which they show forth the fruit of the Spirit—"love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance" (Gal. 5: 22, 23).

This spirit of unity in all things should be found in that great mystic body, the Church Invisible, the Church Universal. In fact, apart from this one church there can be no churches—except in so far as they be local assemblies of believers, in which case the term "churches" is merely the plural form of "church" in the local sense. This is the only valid use of the word according to New Testament practice. Such a term employed to describe a denomination, which is merely a society of men, can have no meaning at all. On the contrary, the various denominational groups may possibly be regarded as organised units within the Church Universal, organised for good in much the same sense as the British and Foreign Bible Society, the China Inland Mission, and the Christian Endeavor Society. These are not churches, but rather societies of Christians banded together to work for the extension of the church. In the same sense the Restoration Movement, grouped together as churches of Christ, consists of a body of disciples who believe themselves to be not the only Christians, but Christians only, organised within the Christian church with the single object of leading other Christians to see the importance and necessity of unity on the basis of New Testament teaching.

II. Not Churches But, Christians

Most Christians to-day believe that the best possible church is a united church. Yet few have interested themselves sufficiently in the matter to bring a practical solution to bear upon the difficulties of denominationalism. In order to view the whole question from the right perspective, it will be necessary to examine in some detail Christ's great prayer as recorded in John 17. These are the words of Jesus:—

"Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; that they all may be one, as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me."—John 17: 20, 21.



*Allen Elliott, M.A., B.Sc., Dip.Ed., of
Western Australia, serving with
R.A.A.F., writes on the text, "En-
deavoring to keep the unity of the
Spirit in the bond of peace."—Eph.*

4: 3.

It is clear from the foregoing verses that Jesus is praying for the unity of believers. Secondly, it is obvious also that he desires that the nature of their unity should be similar to that of the unity which exists between himself and the Father; that is, a unity of the spirit. In the third place, it is evident that such a manifestation of spiritual unity must be expressed in an outward practical form—since its main purpose is that of witnessing to the world, so that the world may believe.

This definitely rules out any idea of union or federation of denominations so popular in these days. Christ did not pray for a wholesale merger on the part of large organisations. He prayed for the spiritual unity of the individual cells that make up the living organism of his church. It is right and proper that groups of church leaders should meet in order to try and settle some of the unfortunate and trivial differences that are dividing Christendom. But it is well for us to remember also that groups of church leaders cannot decide what the members of their denominations will do. This question of unity is a matter for every individual Christian. Only in this way can a oneness of spirit be developed so that it is translated into practical application.

III. The Outward Manifestation of Unity

The only practical solution to this problem seems to be a complete return to the simple teaching and observance of the first Christian church. The only requirements are an adequate interpretation of the New Testament practice, found principally in the Book of Acts and also in the Epistles. Everything that does not conform to this original pattern should be forgotten. We all appreciate the value of tradition. But when tradition is adhered to for its own sake, and when the mere clinging to an empty moribund tradition results in schism among believers, and impairs the effective witness of the body of Christ—that tradition must go.

This has been the approach of the members of the Restoration Movement in their contribution toward the healing of the schisms of Christ's church. It is for this reason that churches known simply as churches of Christ have laid such strong emphasis upon evangelism, believing that by carrying out Christ's commission in the proclamation of the gospel, and leading believers into the fellowship of

the church according to the example clearly revealed in the New Testament, the first steps towards unity by a restoration of first century Christianity are consolidated. This is particularly important in all youth work. For by bringing the child to a knowledge of Christ, and ensuring his entrance into the church according to the plan and pattern of New Testament practice, he is given the fundamental outlook so essential to that unity of the spirit for which we all long.

Too often fervent denominationalists in middle life, while seeing the obvious benefits of co-ordination as well as the distinct and clear teaching of the Word in regard to unity, are so set in the ideas of a lifetime that they are unwilling to forsake the tenets of their fathers, however sectarian they may know them to be. Many godly men have acknowledged such a dilemma, and while Christian charity may forbid us to pronounce judgment upon them, their attitude constitutes a warning and a challenge, compelling us to begin with the children, leading them to the Saviour in tender years by the simple way that his Word so plainly expounds.

Another consideration also is the compelling reason Christ gives for his burning desire for the unity of his disciples. We must be united that we might be a witness unto the world—"that the world may believe." Obviously then any movement towards unity is not an end in itself so much as a means to a greater end—the winning of the world for Christ. This has often been forgotten, especially by some who have criticised the Restoration Movement for placing so great an emphasis on the plea for unity. The answer to this criticism needs no apology.

Churches of Christ combine their plea for unity with an intense evangelism, believing that the two points of view are inextricably bound together. By proclamation of the gospel and bringing men and women to Christ according to a strict and uncompromising interpretation of the New Testament, and at the same time following as closely as possible the example of the early church in worship, method of government, way of life and spirit, churches of Christ have given tangible expression to the Saviour's great prayer for the unity and harmony of his church.

In these days, possibly more than at any other time in the history of the Christian church, this strong witness is necessary. The unity of the Spirit among believers can only be fashioned into a mighty impact upon the world when it is made outwardly manifest. Union or federation, or any other method of closer co-operation would be futile. Compromise could only lead to chaos. There is no royal road to unity. Only by remaining faithful to the Word of God, the one common ground on which all may unite, can we hope for ultimate unity.

Then, and then only, will all believers be able to "keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." May the day be not far distant when this shall be so, and we shall be able to re-echo the words of Paul as an expression of actual fact:

"There is one body, and one spirit, even as ye are called, in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

THE CALL

RISE, for the day is passing,
And you lie dreaming on;
The others have buckled their armor,
And forth to fight have gone;
A place in the ranks awaits you,
Each man has some part to play:
The past and the future are nothing
In the face of the stern to-day.

—A. A. Proctor.

Baramati School Progresses

THE average enrolment for the year at the Baramati mission school was 225 children—181 boys and 44 girls. The average attendance was 189—151 boys and 32 girls. For the various annual examinations, 181 children sat and 171 passed; 36 children secured double promotion, thus effecting a saving of one year for each child. The present enrolment is 246—204 boys and 42 girls. Of this number 117 boys and 21 girls are from Christian groups, 26 boys and 12 girls are backward class children, 21 boys and 2 girls are outcastes, 12 boys are caste Hindus from our Hindu hostel, and 30 boys and 5 girls are caste Hindus from the Baramati area. Formerly we had over sixty children from the backward class settlement, but now the number is only 34. There is no need to dwell upon the causes of this decline, but the fall in number was made up by a large influx of caste Hindu children from the town, so that the attendance was maintained, contributing to a fair increase in the government grant in aid over that of previous year.



J. Bairagi, B.D.

The vernacular final exam. has now been styled the P.S.L.C. examination, and from 16 boys and 2 girls who sat, 10 children passed. The results from our school are again the highest in the district. An analysis of the attendance figures shows that there is a large increase in the number of caste Hindu children attending this school. The school I regard only as a means to an end, the end being the presentation of the gospel. This work is often hindered by the feeling that is abroad that the mission school is for Mahar children only. The gospel is for every creature, and this town, with its eighteen thousand people, including about three thousand children of school-going age, offers an opportunity as well as a challenge to the Christian gospel. It is easy to work among those who have no social standing within the fold of Hinduism, and conversions are sometimes due to the social and economic advantages that Christianity offers rather than to any experience of regeneration. It is no doubt difficult to get a hearing among the cultivated classes in India; but going back to the apostolic age, we find that the gospel appeared in the most enlightened age of antiquity—the Augustan age of literature and historical enquiry; and the empire that Christianity supplanted was not a barbarian one, but an empire ruled by cultured and legally minded people. What the gospel did then, it is able to do now in the stronghold of Hinduism in Baramati. It is very encouraging to note that more and more caste Hindu children are beginning to attend our school, and there have been many requests for a branch school in the town. When the proposed fellowship centre is built, it will be possible to have a day school as well as evangelistic meetings in it.

Mr. Hivale, the headmaster, was released for pastoral work at Dhond, and Mr. I. S. Rathod succeeded him as headmaster. Mr. Mohan Lal has joined the training college as a student. There are four new members of the staff also—two young ladies and two men.

Mr. John Bairagi, B.D., who has charge of the educational programme at Baramati, India, gives a progressive report on the year's work.

English was introduced as a special subject last year, and this year we are giving recognition for standards one and two. Mr. Makwana was appointed to teach English; and after a year of practical teaching, has been sent to Poona to prepare himself for the S.T.C. degree, which is the prime requisite for the continuance of the present English class.

There are twelve boys in the Hindu hostel—ten from our school at Shirsuphal and two from elsewhere. These boys attend the morning assembly as well as the scripture classes in the school, and heartily co-operate in all the exercises connected with the school.

The children have shown keen interest in gardening. The proceeds from the sale of vegetables amounted to Rs. 83, used for the purchase of a harmonium for the school. The parents of children attending the school subscribed enough money for the purchase of another harmonium.

At present there are three different exams.

Queensland Temperance Platform

P. C. D. Alcorn, our correspondent in Queensland, reports on liquor trade problems and on progress of churches in the Northern State.

THE annual conference of Queensland Temperance League was largely attended. Some great addresses were delivered and important decisions made. The president, A. M. Wheller, declared that the "social glass" is the nation's enemy, and everyone who had the welfare of the nation at heart should challenge and strive to overcome it. The league, while appreciating the efforts of the Liquor Reform Society to improve conditions under which men drink, could not accept their contention that social drinking in a pleasant beer garden would improve matters, because the drug remains the same whether taken in a garden or in a bar. It is doubtful, too, whether social drinking would reduce the amount of liquor consumed. The conference decided to ask the State government to amend the Liquor Act by providing local option polls on the abolition of liquor bars. (This privilege was taken away from the people some years ago.) We felt it was a constructive move to invite Professor Harvey Sutton, of Sydney University, to set up a school where those interested in the cause of temperance could take a week's intensive course on the scientific aspect of alcohol and its effect on the system. State ownership of hotels has been advocated as one method of defeating the liquor traffic, but the league has no faith in it. Some of the hotels already State controlled are more disgraceful and filthier than the average Queensland bar. Anyhow, witness how rapidly the State controlled Golden Casket has filled during war years in spite of the government's policy to curtail luxury spending. Young people should realise that it is the one who has the courage to resist the temptation to drink at weddings, parties and other social gatherings who is of greatest service to his country.

Missions

Our attention has been drawn to the Deaf and Dumb Mission, of which H. W. Hermann is president. What these folk, less fortunate than ourselves, can do reveals that they are

for the P.S.L.C.—the agricultural, the girls, and the boys; but later these will be combined into one with an additional subject. We have decided to take music as the additional subject, because it can be taken by girls as well as boys, and so the musical instruments are very welcome.

Boy Scouts and Girl Guides are special features of our school activities. About fourteen of the big girls have left school and are married. This has reduced the number of Guides. In January we sent four Scouts and two Guides to the great rally in Bombay.

In conclusion, I wish to place on record the sincere gratitude of the recipients of so much benefit from the members of the Australian churches of Christ. May God richly bless those who have given so generously for the cause of education which is the only wealth the poor Christians in this land of India can ever hope to possess.

THE Federal Board, State F.M. committees and missionaries on all fields, pray that the whole brotherhood will have a merry Christmas despite some gloom that overshadows us, and the new year full of the blessing and goodness of God.

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

worthy of all the help we can give. The mission is now making an appeal for £25,000 to build a hostel in 1946.

The Brisbane City Mission has had a busy year, assisting in all 2458 people.

The Methodists have bought an International truck from the Army for gospel caravan work in isolated districts.

The Presbyterian church is celebrating its centenary. The report states that at the end of 100 years there are 112 charges, 407 preaching centres, 219 churches, 84 manse, and 15,000 members. Recently a camp site was bought at Alexandria Headland for the young people.

We note with pleasure that our own Young People's Department has acquired nine acres of land at Caloundra for £350, for young people's camps.

Cameos

Recently we visited Roma for the fifty-seventh anniversary services. We noted with interest that A. S. Cooke has been secretary of the church for twenty-seven years and R. L. Pitman has been superintendent of the Sunday school for twenty-five years. The preacher, L. Wylie, believes that a strong circuit could be formed in the Chinchilla district. The possibilities should be investigated with faith and optimism.

The half-yearly conference this year was held at Boonah, where A. J. Fisher just previously conducted a most successful mission.

We are looking forward to the coming of two exit students to strengthen the preaching force in the metropolitan area. C. J. Mackenzie will go to Kedron, a rapidly growing suburb; and J. Grant to Boondall and Zillmere.

Christmas Camps

W. R. Hibburt

IN most States Christmas and New Year camps are being held under the auspices of the Young People's Department. New South Wales young people have a choice—Narrabeen or Newcastle. The popularity of the Victorian camp made it necessary to close registrations at the beginning of December. Western Australia is using its camp site at Waterman's Bay freely during the summer months. We share the excitement of Queensland young people in the news of a permanent camp site. It has an area of nine acres, and is only three minutes from a beach about 67 miles from Brisbane.

Jesus Suggests a Camp

"Come ye yourselves apart privately into a desert place and rest awhile." What a beautiful suggestion Jesus makes to his disciples! Let us go camping on the hillside, let us refresh ourselves, let us keep in repair our friendship with one another and God, and come forth with renewed energy and vision and fresh grip on the worthwhile things of life. Climate and the habits of the day drove Jesus outdoors for his education, and it was real. Jesus tempts us to seek a secret place away from the pressure and artificiality of life, and there know the reality of God. Jesus tempts us out in the air of God, and the sunshine of God, the two most healing and protecting things the body can have. Jesus made time to build spiritual friendships, and was happy in such friendship circles. The sunshine of God is let into the human heart more readily at such times and experiences.

Camp Thanksgiving

Our Master, thou didst gather thy followers

in a quiet, green place, and there didst teach them heavenly truth and fed them with bread thy hands had blessed. We, too, have met thee here, and heard thy truth, and found ourselves refreshed with the bread and water of life. Thankfully we acknowledge what thou hast bestowed on us: wide spaces of earth and open sky; birds' voices and many-colored smile of flowers; the benison of food; a fireside welcome at close of day; our comrades drawn to closer comradeship by laughter, song and converse; new thoughts and visions opened to our mind; and best of all, at whiles that silence when thy voice alone was heard. We bless thee for the treasures we shall carry hence: vigor and health and zest of life renewed; memories of what has been, visions of the yet to be, re-quickened longings after good; our hearts lifted again in the joy of salvation.

Be with us now and evermore, and by thy presence in our heart transform our humblest task to God-like ministry.—Effe Ryle.

Prayer of Dedication

O King Eternal, thou God who knowest us altogether, to thee would we dedicate this camp. Here would we pledge our faith, that in play, in fellowship, in worship, in study, in service, and in personal devotion we will ever seek, through thy grace and strength, to enthroned Jesus Christ as King and Lord of our lives, and in loving allegiance to obey his holy will.

To this high end we dedicate both our camp and ourselves.

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

College of the Bible

GLEN IRIS, VICTORIA

CLOSING exercises on November 22 and 23 brought a very happy and successful college year to an end.

The ordination service in Swanston-st. chapel was presided over by the principal, and W. F. Nankivell gave an excellent message to the ordinands. T. Hagger, Dr. W. A. Kemp, W. F. Nankivell and R. T. Pittman acted as ordinands. Miss Pittman officiated at the organ.

Dr. W. A. Kemp, chairman of the board, presided over a well-attended graduation service in the evening in Lygon-st. chapel. Diplomas were presented to the following exits: F. B. Alcorn, C. B. Cartmel, A. G. MacDonald, K. J. Patterson, V. Quayle, and a certificate to Miss I. V. Gill. Each suitably responded. Mr. Alcorn will continue with the church at Reservoir, Victoria, in a full-time capacity, where he has been serving as a student preacher; he hopes to take university work. Mr. Cartmel goes to South Australia, where he will engage in part-time church work and university studies. Mr. MacDonald will carry on an interim ministry at North Fitzroy, Victoria, and hopes to take university work next year, probably in U.S.A. Mr. Patterson will take up full-time work at Ivanhoe, Victoria, and continue his course at the Melbourne University. Mr. Quayle is to carry on at Croydon, Victoria, with Ringwood included in a full-time circuit. He also will continue studies in the Melbourne University. Miss Gill is to continue in a full-time interim ministry as a deaconess with the church at Malvern-Caulfield, Victoria.

Other exits are: Miss Mary Charles, who will be taking up nursing in the Royal Melbourne Hospital; J. A. Hindman, who will be serving with the churches at Aldgate Valley and Stirling in South Australia, and continuing with university studies; R. H. Hindman, who intends to take up special training for radio work; C. J. Mackenzie, who will return to Queensland and serve with the church at Kedron, Brisbane; A. G. Thurgood, and Miss N. Dransfield. J. A. and R. H. Hindman will probably both qualify for diplomas in a few weeks when the results of matriculation examinations are known.

In his report the principal stated that the enrolment at the beginning of the year was 48 men and 8 ladies. During the year, owing to sickness and other causes, 7 men left. Three of these are hoping to return next year. Two men and five ladies have been accepted for 1946. Two former students, D. Thomas and F. Langford, who have returned from the Services, will take up the course again next year. Twenty-six churches have been served regularly during the year by students. In addition to this regular service, there has been much supply work in churches, Sunday schools and clubs. Attention was drawn to the decision to institute a pass and honors course. An honors diploma will be received by students who do at least a four-year Bible course, maintain a grade of at least 70 per cent., and secure two approved university subjects. A pass diploma will be awarded to students who do at least a three-year Bible course at the pass standard. In accordance with previous regulations anticipating this proposal, an honors diploma was presented to K. J. Patterson, who received this award on account of university work done in addition

to the college course. Appreciation of the service rendered in the domestic arrangements by Miss Shaw and Mrs. Arnold was expressed by Mr. Williams. Miss Shaw, who terminates her engagement with the college this year, will be succeeded by Miss M. Payne.

The principal also reported some improvements in the kitchen, and the removal of the prison-like fence around a portion of the college buildings. An informal closing session was conducted at the college on Friday morning. About twenty students remained in residence until university examinations were over on Dec. 12.

We take this opportunity of expressing thanks to all who have shared in the work of our college during 1946.—E.L.W.

The Home Circle

J. C. F. Pittman

AS THE YEAR ENDS

"GOD is working his purpose out, as year succeeds to year, God is working his purpose out, and the time is drawing near; Nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be, When the earth shall be filled with the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea."

PRAYER

PRAYER is the chalice in which we fetch the water from the rock. It is the ladder on which we climb up to pick the grapes hanging over the wall of heaven. It is the fire that warms the frigid soul. It is the ship that carries away our wants, and comes back with a return cargo of divine help. Archimedes said, if he could only find a fulcrum for his lever, he could move the world. Ah! we have found it! Prayer is the lever. The divine promise is the fulcrum. Pushing down on such a lever, we move not only earth but also heaven.—Talmage.

The Family Altar

TOPIC.—"THEY ARE DEAD THAT SOUGHT HIS LIFE"

- Dec. 24—Psalm 1.
- " 25—Psalm 110.
- " 26—Prov. 10: 24-32.
- " 27—1 Cor. 15: 20-28.
- " 28—Heb. 1.
- " 29—Matt. 2: 1-12.
- " 30—Isaiah 11; Matthew 2: 13-15.

THIS seems like a prophetic utterance, food for thought for friend or foe. Seeking the life of this Babe, Herod and company forfeited their own. The boomerang rebounded to their own destruction. In the trap they set for Jesus they found themselves encaged. Herod is dead but Christ still lives. Later on the enemy took his life, but while all his persecutors are now no more, he is yet alive. Since that day countless hosts of men have tried to annihilate the Christian religion, but they have all died, yet "Christ, being raised from the dead, dieth no more." "They are dead that sought his life"; but he who was dead, being alive for evermore, gives life to those who are "dead in trespasses and sins." Thus we are again reminded that the only hope for each and all is an alliance with him who "only hath immortality." To love and serve this great Saviour should be our life's aim. Then though, like him, we may be hunted about as nobodies, cruelly treated and even slain, we can go forth unafraid, knowing that when every enemy is vanquished we shall live and reign with Christ for ever.

Here and There

F. A. Youens has accepted the invitation to serve as preacher of church at Dandenong, Vic. It is expected he will commence his ministry on March 10.

The following reached us too late for last issue:—"Hinrichsen-Morris had splendid meetings, Sunday, Bexley North, N.S.W.; five decisions at night.—Henderson."

Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Pratt have returned to Ringwood, Vic., after a very happy interim ministry at Hamilton. Mr. Pratt has commenced an interim part-time ministry at Drumcondra.

The rules of "Open Forum" include the request that those who have had a say on a particular subject withdraw from the discussion. That explains why we must hold some letters reaching us.

We have been advised that the Commissioner of Stamps has decided that churches are to be classified as charities for the purpose of the Stamp Act. Cheques therefore issued on a church account are free from stamp duty.

The following message reached us on Dec. 17: "Despite strike restrictions Hinrichsen-Morris had marvellous meeting at Bexley North, N.S.W., last night; marquee was crowded; ten decisions, six men; thirty-six to date.—Henderson."

C. J. Hemming and L. R. Lanston, of the Sunday School Union of Victoria, are holding open-air Sunday schools at North Melbourne and at South Melbourne beach. Prayer and interest of readers are sought for these ventures.

D. H. Butler, who at the time of his enlistment in the A.I.F., in 1940, was preacher of church at Wagga, N.S.W., was welcomed back at the gospel service on Nov. 30. Mr. Butler thanked brethren at Wagga for their prayers on his behalf while a prisoner of war.

To enable the Austral staff to have the full benefit of the holidays, this is our last issue for 1945. The first "Christian" for 1946 will close for press on Jan. 2 and be posted on Jan. 3. Our usual day of posting is Tuesday, and we trust that readers will understand that delay in receipt of the paper will be on account of the way the holidays fell.

Dr. J. Bader, general secretary of the World Convention of Churches of Christ, is planning now for another world convention. His visit to the centenary conference to be held at Adelaide, S.A., in September will help to create interest in that event. The members of the executive who are able to meet are gathering at Chicago, U.S.A., this month. It seems now that the next World Convention will be held at Toronto, Canada, in 1947.

The final meeting of Eastern Suburban Youth Fellowship took place at Hartwell, Vic., on Dec. 8, when 200 young people were present. The programme included items and quizzes. Gifts were brought by members to be sent to Christian Guest Home, Burwood Boys' Home and Children's Hospital. The attendance competition result was announced, and the shield was presented by the president, Ken Sturgess, to Doncaster, Mont Albert being a close second. A. Hurren spoke words of encouragement to young people. Supper was served by Hartwell church.

The concert conducted by the Churches of Christ Ladies' Choir, under baton of Miss Marion E. Pittman, on Monday, Dec. 10, was well attended, and patrons were well satisfied with the programme. The choir alternated throughout with Christmas carols and part-songs with good effect. Every artist was warmly encored, and in some cases several times. The concert is an annual function arranged to assist funds of the proposed hospital in association with the Christian Guest Home. It is expected that a substantial sum will be netted as a result of the effort.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Cleland, presidents of Victorian conferences, write: "After six years we are about to share, free from the shadows of war, the joys of a peaceful Christmas. As our thoughts turn to the great event that makes the spirit of Christmas possible, let us give thanks to our heavenly Father for the many blessings we have received. As the year closes, we bring to the brethren Christmas greetings and the hope that the New Year will provide rich avenues of service for all."

Christmas

Written in P.O.W. camp, Bandoeng, Java.

FROM Bethlehem to Belgrade,
from Bethlehem to Nantes.
A cry, a little child-cry, half-
stifled in the night
The longed-for Saviour told of, the
coming of the Light.

From Nazareth to Nuremberg, from
Nazareth to Kent,
The Child, a little Boy-child, a simple
message clear
Sent out in wondering accents to men
obsessed with fear.

From Bethany to Berlin, from Bethany
to Rome,
With news of man's deliverance the
Master's teaching sped,
With news of Nicodemus, of Lazarus
rising from his bed.

From Galilee to Germany, from Galilee
to France,
Came the purpose of this Jesus, came
the mission of the Lord,
To cease from senseless bickering, to
live together in accord.

On Calvary at Eastertide to Christians
it had seemed
The death of their deliverance, as their
Deliverer died,
Until they saw in wonderment the grave
there gaping wide.

From Belgrade, Nantes and Nuremberg,
from Berlin, Rome and Kent,
Shall Christ again in agony to Calvary
be sent?

Yet still the Christmas message on the
midnight echoes clear,
And still the angels' tidings ring out for
man to hear.

—D. L. Gregory.

The consensus of opinion expressed at a recent discussion which took place under the auspices of the Victorian Social Service Department at the Victoria Palace with regard to the question of the church in politics appeared to indicate a definite opposition to the church becoming a party to politics. At the same time, all recognised that the church faced the problem of effecting social reform apart from politics. The difficulty of initiating legislation with regard to some of the major problems, national and international, was also admitted unless the church found some more direct method than that which exists for her at present. There were ends to be gained and there was service to be rendered to the community and to the whole world which were possible only through the political instrument. The meeting congratulated Mrs. Brownbill, M.L.A., and C. F. Adermann, M.H.R., on their fine political records. Both expressed their

regret that they could not be present. A. A. Hughes, C. R. Burdeu and Mrs. W. Nankivell introduced the subject, which led to a most interesting and profitable discussion.

The main outline of meetings of Federal Conference, to be held at Adelaide in 1946, includes the following:—Tuesday, Sept. 3: afternoon, presidents' reception; evening, Christian Education—retrospective and prospective; Wednesday evening, Home and Overseas Missions; Thursday evening, Christian Citizenship; Friday evening, Women's Conference; Saturday evening, Youth Service; Sunday afternoon, Sept. 8, Conference Sermon. The State conference will follow on Sept. 9, 10.

A team from College of the Bible conducted evening service at Croydon, Vic., on Nov. 25. Young People's Club held a successful social on Dec. 1. Mr. Bell spoke at morning service on Dec. 9, the occasion being his 88th birthday. Bible school party and Christmas tree on Dec. 15 were enjoyed by scholars and parents. Mr. Page will speak during Mr. Quayle's absence on holiday at his home in N.S.W. On his return he will commence full-time ministry in charge of newly-formed Ringwood-Croydon circuit.

At Boronia, Vic., with assistance of brethren from Bayswater church, J. Baker and E. L. Williams, of college, and supported by ladies of church who provided meals and refreshment, work on youth hall is on way to completion. F/O. W. Goodwin, who returned with R.A.A.F. personnel from England recently, and Miss Niven, who has been seriously ill, were welcomed back by church. P. Jordan will return to superintend Sunday school after three weeks' holiday at Airey's Inlet. Irwin Barber has made the gift of an organ to new kinder room. To conclude the S.S. rally children were entertained at a garden party social. Kinders were given a Christmas party. Rally results were especially encouraging in improved efficiency. Rex Mathias addressed a well attended Christmas service, arranged by committee of combined churches; suitable films followed.

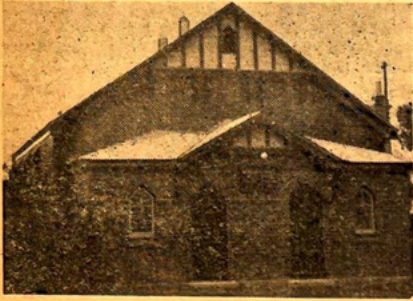
TRIBUTE TO MEMORY OF ALAN GARLAND

I HAVE been requested by several former prisoners of war, members of our brotherhood, to write a few lines on their behalf concerning our late brother, Alan Garland. Alan was held in the greatest esteem by members of his unit, the 2/9th Field Ambulance, in which he held the rank of corporal. His consistency in Christian living and fearless conduct and devotion to duty during the Malayan campaign earned him the admiration of all who knew him. In February, 1943, owing to shortage of chaplains in Singapore, Alan was invited to accept an acting chaplaincy. Feeling that he could be of greater service to the men in this capacity than as a medical orderly (sickness being very light at the time), Alan accepted the duties of chaplain, and acted for three months in Singapore, prior to his departure for Borneo in April, 1943. Whilst doing this work Alan arranged a weekly communion service; about twelve churches of Christ members who were P.O.W.'s met for the breaking of bread each Sunday. It was with profound regret those of us who were fortunate to survive the years of captivity learned of his death. It is with the utmost confidence we say that he gave his life for his fellowmen and for the Christ he loved; for service of the Master was the sole motive that dominated his life. The testimony of all who knew him is this: "There died a gallant Christian gentleman."—F. G. Adams.

News of the Churches

Tasmania

West Hobart.—At well-attended services on Nov. 25 R. V. Amos was speaker. Evening soloist was Sister R. Lillye. Mr. Amos was speaker on morning of Dec. 2, there being very good attendance. In afternoon, at first session of Bible school anniversary, about 300 overcrowded building. R. V. Amos gave an interesting address. School sang well under



The Chapel at West Hobart.

leadership of Mrs. J. Park and orchestra of seven instruments. Solos were sung by Norma Woolley and Dorothy MacQueeney. Greetings were received from Collins-st. school and recently formed school at Claremont by Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson, and from Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Byard (Natone). A special welcome was given to G. O. Tease, home on leave. Evening congregation numbered about 200. Lieut. George Barton gave an appreciated illustrated address.

South Australia

Whyalla.—Speakers on Dec. 2 were G. M. Cox and S. E. Matthews. Miss Richards, of North Adelaide, recently transferred (Women's Police Dept.), was welcomed. On Dec. 4 S. E. Matthews was speaker at Whyalla United Christian Fellowship. Sunday school held Christmas tree and party on Dec. 8 with 180 present. On Dec. 9 S. E. Matthews was speaker. David Dunwoodie, of Subiaco, W.A., is worshipping with church for three months.

Fullarton.—Milton Hall picture palace was three parts full at closing prophecy meeting for the year on Dec. 2. Male choir rendered two fine pieces under leadership of Wilfred Craddock. H. G. Norris's address in morning was appreciated. On Dec. 9 the baptism of four candidates, all adults, and a Bible study on immersion made a strong appeal to many unimmersed people in audience. Chapel was almost full. The church looked forward to reunion with W. G. Graham on Christmas Sunday evening.

Adelaide (Grote-st.)—On Dec. 2 Mr. Beller spoke at both services. Amongst visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Graham and Mrs. A. Cameron, of Victoria, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Wiltshire, from W.A. At mid-week service on Dec. 5, Mr. Wiltshire gave a devotional address. Mrs. Potter passed away on Dec. 2 after a short illness. Mr. Beller officiated at the graveside on Dec. 3. Church extends sympathy to loved ones, also to Mrs. Matson in the loss by death of a sister. Jack Porteous (Navy) is home on leave, and has had fellowship with church. On Dec. 4, Glenelg church young people's choir, under A. N. Haddrick, delighted with a splendid programme in school hall in aid of kinders' Christmas tree.

Brooklyn Park.—Bible school held anniversary, completing 21 years. First day was given almost entirely to intermediates; on second Sunday afternoon children were presented with rewards. Gold medal for 1944-45 was again won by Jeanne Storr. Kindergarten children rendered items. A previous choirmaster of church, Roy Norman, conducted anniversary. Addresses were enjoyed. Girls' Club, recently formed, held a successful social. Members of recently-formed Boys' Club are preparing for one. Brooklyn Park branch of W.C.T.U. held an afternoon for mothers and children under six, and at meeting inaugurated a Little White Ribboners band. Each child received a small present. Afternoon tea was served. It has been a joy to have meeting with church a number of young men from Services. A collection for "Food for Britain" amounted to £7.

Queenstown.—During month Mr. Brooker gave helpful addresses. All auxiliaries have been active. Bible school reports several new scholars and increased attendances, and collection of £14 toward mission work during year. Alberton Methodist Society visited J.C.E. meeting on Dec. 9, 68 being present. At a Christmas social society received a visit from Cheltenham society. Girls' Club had Christmas meeting and has given an evening to older members of church. Annual "continental" of club was held in November, when a good sum was netted for Christmas cheer. Men of church have decided to re-form the men's brotherhood, which has been in recess. On Dec. 2 a men's meeting was held at 4.30, followed by tea. Several visitors from churches in Port Line group gave greetings, and Mr. Brooker delivered a message to men. Mrs. J. Thompson, sen., an old member, has passed away. Mr. Brooker at gospel service on Dec. 2 made reference to her death. Sympathy was extended to the family. Mrs. Purdie, Mrs. A. Harris, Miss D. Hastings and F. Harris are laid aside. J. Quilliam has been discharged, and a number of the boys are expected home.

Queensland

Albion.—Boys' Club gave annual display on Nov. 22, and second half on Nov. 29. Mrs. Runnels (nee Alison Trudgian) left with her husband during month for Melbourne. Visitors at meetings recently included S. Laney, of Burwood, N.S.W.

Gympie.—Two successful Christmas tree parties have been held by kindergarten and J.C.E. On Dec. 7 the Y.P.C.E. Society held a games night and supper to conclude year's work. On Dec. 9 one young man was baptised. Home mission offering now exceeds £10.

Monkland.—E. Trudgian preached at monthly gospel service on Dec. 2, which was well attended. A. J. Fisher visited Mothar Mt. State school for picnic and distributed prizes. He has also visited here regularly for religious instruction. G. Meads, sen., passed away on Dec. 8, and sympathy is expressed to bereaved.

Mackay.—A happy time was spent on afternoon of Dec. 8, when S.S. and J.C.E. held breaking-up party. At seven, all adjourned to church building, when S.S. prizes were distributed to every scholar. Scripture examination certificates were given out, and each child who passed received a special book prize. Bookmarks were given to all in team which won prayer competition run by J.C.E. Two special prizes for best work for three months were won by Henry Downie and John Edmonds. Santa Claus arrived at 7.30 and gave children a present and bag of sweets from Christmas tree. Senior and Junior C.E. and S.S. are now in recess. Mr. Millar, having been ordered rest by doctor, has commenced holidays. Mr. Jewell spoke at evening service on Dec. 2, Mr. Neilsen being morning speaker.

Western Australia

Maylands.—Mr. McRoberts addressed a good congregation on morning of Dec. 9, and received into fellowship a mother of one of S.S. scholars, who was baptised previous Wednesday night. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds, American missionaries, spoke at evening service, and fellowship with them was enjoyed. Another S.S. boy made the good confession. Over 100 persons were present. All auxiliaries are in recess for summer vacation after an interesting year of service. Sale of gifts on Dec. 1 was successful, and the manse fund will benefit by £27. Creche is functioning on Sunday mornings, enabling parents to worship without their infants. Mr. Ware was speaker for H.M. Sunday, Dec. 2.

Perth.—To mark lifting of debt on church property a social evening was held. Following an impressive thanksgiving service a social hour in church hall was enjoyed. During supper welcome was extended to returned Servicemen. A list of 20 names was read by E. R. Berry, chairman of officers' board. A. G. Elliott replied on behalf of all in Services. Church treasurer, A. B. Povey, gave an encouraging survey of finances from 1892 to present year. On morning of Dec. 9 visitors included Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Reynolds and son (Virginia, U.S.A.), and Mrs. Walker (Eastern States). Mr. Reynolds held attention in a talk on mission work in Indian villages. At 7.30 p.m. Mr. Berry rendered a solo. J. K. Robinson was preacher.

New South Wales

Dareton.—On Dec. 2, Mr. Fechner welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Chivell and family on behalf of church. A welcome social was held on Dec. 5, when a large delegation came from Mildura. Church is delighted to have a preacher, and he has delivered inspiring addresses to good congregations. S.S. picnic, held at river, was enjoyed. Keen interest is taken in ladies' meetings. The ladies raised over £20 during past six months. A visit of W. R. Hibbert was appreciated.

Broken Hill.—In past fortnight meetings have been well attended and several Christmas functions enjoyed. Wolfram-st. Christmas tree was held on Dec. 1 and at Wills-st. on Dec. 7. At Wills-st. a splendid response was made to newly-formed building fund for erection of a new school hall. On evening of Dec. 2 members of I.O.R. Lodge were on parade at Wolfram-st. for gospel service. On Dec. 9 Christmas gospel service was held; carols were sung by choir, and an appropriate message was given by H. E. Paddick. Thursday night fellowship meetings have been well attended, during which Mr. Paddick has been leading in a study of Romans.

Chatswood.—Mr. Youens gave an excellent address to children on evening of Sunday school anniversary on Nov. 11. In afternoon speaker was Mr. Patterson. Singing of school choir, under leadership of D. Verco, was enjoyed. During recent weeks Mr. Youens has visited Inverell and Murwillumbah. In his absence services were conducted by Sgt. A. Surtees, A.I.F. Several Service members have returned, including Bob and Dick Pentelow, G. Hopkins and E. Vercoe. Although still in A.I.F., Phil Vercoe has been able to take part in church for some time, and has devoted special attention to fund for new organ. Due entirely to his efforts this fund has now topped £300, and it is expected the new instrument will be installed during 1946. A record of 27 years' unbroken attendance at officers' meetings is the achievement of Y. M. Middleton, the treasurer, an office he has held during whole of that period. Among visitors on Dec. 9 was Teleprinter Operator Ellis, R.N. Seekers' Club has completed a successful year, concluding act-being to hand a cheque for £50 for dispensary in New Hebrides. One of the club members, Miss Dorothy Richards, has been bed-ridden for some months through infantile paralysis.

Bowral.—Mr. Parker is doing excellent work, and his addresses are inspiring. Almost full membership is at every meeting. Average attendance at young people's meeting is 25. All other auxiliaries are working well. On Nov. 17 an enjoyable meeting was held at Wollongong church, when four candidates from Bowral were baptised. The church is grateful to those holidaying in the district who encourage by their presence, interest and generosity.

Belmore.—Bible school anniversary in November was an outstanding success, with building crowded for all services. Speakers were Messrs. Gibb, Greenhalgh and Corlett, and the school's choruses and varied items were given at one of the meetings. During the special services 11 made the good confession. On Dec. 2, 11 were baptised and two more made the confession, while three others were baptised on Dec. 9 with one more confession. The same night a big representation from Orange Lodge held a church parade at gospel service. On Dec. 6 the choir organised a concert party to Hearne Bay Hospital, where they entertained ex-prisoners of war with an excellent programme. The work continues to prosper, and good work is being done in all auxiliaries.

Victoria

Stawell.—Mr. Davey was preacher on Nov. 18, W. Evans on Nov. 25 and Dec. 2. Mr. Jackson preached on Dec. 9, when a young man, William O'Neal, made the good confession. Sale of work and social were enjoyed on Dec. 4. Mrs. Cunningham is laid aside in Horsham Hospital after operation.

Bet Bet.—On Dec. 2 J. W. Lewis addressed church, and in afternoon spoke to scholars of Bible school on occasion of anniversary. Friends and scholars from Dunolly S.S. supported meeting, and church building was filled. W. Alderson is progressing favorably after breaking a leg some weeks ago; he is still in hospital.

Ararat.—On Dec. 2, Mr. Bennett preached at both services. In evening an Orange Lodge parade was held. Mr. Bennett's address on religious freedom being illustrated by lantern slides. On Dec. 6 Ladies' Aid held a fete and Christmas tree, when £70 was raised. On Dec. 9 W. Evans spoke at both services. Meetings are increasing in numbers.

Newmarket.—On Dec. 1, Good Companions Club held a sale of gifts, when £13 was raised for Christian Guest Home. Mr. Allison addressed both services on Dec. 9. On Dec. 15 a happy time was spent at kindergarten Christmas party. Mr. Allison addressed both services on Dec. 16. Sympathy of church is extended to Mrs. Mumford and relatives in loss of her husband.

Thornbury.—The mission continued into its fourth week. On Dec. 12 three Bible school scholars were baptised, and on afternoon of Dec. 16, during Bible school, four more were baptised. Gospel meeting in evening was excellently attended, and three confessions were made. As this was last Sunday night of mission, a thankoffering was received. A farewell was given the missionaries on Dec. 17.

Essendon.—The church is in good heart. Members appreciate willing service of Mr. Shaw during month, and look forward to coming of Mr. Crisp in new year. Phi Betas entertained parents and friends at a social evening on Dec. 13. On Dec. 15 the kindergarten had a Christmas party which was enjoyed by children and parents. Mr. Rasmussen gave an earnest talk at midweek meeting on Dec. 12.

Camberwell.—On Dec. 9 a rally of youth auxiliaries was held at 7 p.m. service. W. F. Nankivell spoke, and several young people assisted in the service; 111 present. The church has suffered the loss of Mrs. A. Scambler, who recently fell and fractured her leg. Mr. and Miss Clements have also suffered the loss of their sister. 140 mothers, children and babies attended annual kindergarten Christmas treat on Dec. 15, a happy time being experienced.

Hampton.—On Dec. 12 the Soldiers' Aid Society held a social to welcome home those who had served in the Forces. A. McDiarmid spoke on morning of Dec. 16. In evening C. L. Lang led a service of Christmas song. Don. Stokie, a Sunday school scholar, confessed Christ. An offering for Social Service hospital fund amounted to £4/10/10. Mrs. Meekings is in hospital after operation.

Oakleigh.—F. Buckingham, representing Social Service Department, was speaker on morning of Dec. 9. On Dec. 15, 50 children attended kindergarten Christmas party in afternoon, and in evening a "welcome home" was tendered to a number of discharged Service personnel. S. Neighbour was speaker at both services on Dec. 16, choir rendering Christmas music in evening. Ladies of church contributed £36 to hospital fund.

Cheltenham.—Bible school tea was held on Dec. 16, when the superintendent, T. Daff, presented each scholar with a book gift for Christmas. At 7 p.m. a united Christmas choral service was held in local Methodist church. Ladies' Mission Band held a successful Australian tea on Dec. 4, raising £17/7/- for Guest Home. At recent C.M.S. meeting, A. B. McDiarmid gave a thought provoking talk and stimulated much discussion. Home mission offering reached £36.

Middle Park.—On Dec. 9 an address by A. Thomas was enjoyed in morning. Bible scholars were entertained at a youth tea and took part in gospel service, when Mr. Randall delivered an impressive address. On Dec. 10 members of Phi Beta Pi entertained their mothers at a Christmas treat. Kindergarten and cradle roll held an enjoyable Christmas tree on Dec. 15. Mr. Burns, of Sudan United Mission, was speaker on morning of Dec. 16. At gospel service a splendid address was given by A. Wilson.

Ormond.—On morning of Nov. 25 Mr. McKenzie, of the college, gave the address. At 7 p.m. W. W. McDowell preached to a good audience. Choir sang beautifully under baton of K. Austin. On Nov. 25 there was a cricket parade. On Dec. 1, Bible school held annual picnic at Mordialloc; on Dec. 2 Roy Roberts, of the college, spoke morning and evening. On Dec. 4 choir and artists gave a concert. Proceeds went to £50 challenge. On Dec. 15 kindergarten had a Christmas party. On Dec. 13, Bible school held a social for scholars and parents. The church looks forward to coming of J. K. Martin.

Burnley.—On Dec. 2 Mr. Crawshaw, secretary Mission to Lepers, gave a lantern lecture on work of mission. Ladies' Guild invited officers and wives to tea at chapel on Dec. 5, when £50, raised during year, was presented to secretary. At social evening on same date farewell was said to C. Page, who concluded his ministry on Dec. 2. Presentations were made to Mr. and Mrs. Page and Barbara. Words of welcome were extended to H. Long, who commenced a ministry on Dec. 9, attendances being good. Good Companions concluded year at a social on Dec. 11. Cricket club is enjoying a successful season.

Berwick.—On Nov. 14 ladies' united quarterly prayer service in connection with World Day of Prayer was held in chapel. Mrs. Wickham presided, and Mrs. Cleland gave an appreciated address. Mr. Collingwood conducted services on Nov. 18, and Mr. Gross on Nov. 25. Church has welcomed Mr. Smith back after severe illness. Sickness among members has reduced attendances of late. At annual business meeting on Nov. 24, all officers were re-elected with one addition, Alan Meyer. Reports from Bible school and kindergarten, C.E. Society and other auxiliaries showed that work is in good heart. Ralph Moore, of B. & F. Bible Society, was speaker on morning of Dec. 2, and gave an illustrated lantern lecture in Presbyterian hall after gospel service. Visitors have been welcomed, and fellowship has been enjoyed with Olive and Ted Meyer, home on annual holidays.

Emerald.—On Dec. 9 R. K. Holton, of Upwey, took both services, his messages being appreciated. Church bus service between Fern Tree Gully and intermediate places to Emerald and return, for each morning and evening service, is proving a boon.

Springvale.—On Dec. 9 J. K. Bond welcomed three baptised believers into fellowship. Dec. 12 saw last gathering for year of Ladies' Mission Band, at home of Sister Poulton. A pleasant afternoon was enjoyed, items being contributed by members. Explorers and Good Companions combined in a break-up night, around a camp-fire, in grounds of Mr. and Mrs. Marks. Games and singing were enjoyed, the meeting finishing on a devotional note. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Davies was the scene of a Christmas tree and party for kindergarten on Dec. 15.

Hamilton.—Excellent attendances have appreciated addresses of Mr. Curtis. Women's Mission Band conducted a successful sale of gifts, over £56 being raised for church work. The Mayor of Hamilton, Cr. Rasmussen, opened the function. At annual meeting of Mission Band, reports indicated a successful year. The following were elected: President, Mrs. Curtis; vice-presidents, Mrs. Pitman and Mrs. Witham; secretary, Mrs. C. L. Robert; assistant, Mrs. W. G. Hadden; treasurer, Mrs. Gamble; pianists, Mrs. Maher and Mrs. Clough. Tennis club has opened season. Recently formed C.M.S. has adopted a syllabus, and plans for extension.

St. Kilda.—Mr. Burt, from South Yarra, gave an appreciated address on morning of Nov. 18. Following church school a youth tea was held. On Nov. 24 a concert in aid of church debt and parcels for members of Forces connected with church was held. This was given by C. Gadge and party and sponsored by Men's Fellowship Club. On Dec. 1 members of C.E. went in the combined hike from Mount Evelyn to Lilydale. Mrs. Dall and Miss A. Dall, who have been away from home for some months, were welcomed back on Dec. 2. S. Franklin (R.A.A.F.), home on leave, was also present. Collection by sisters of church for hospital fund (Social Service) was £3/6/-.

Wedderburn.—H. Long has closed his ministry here. In nine months there were nine confessions, more than for last nine years. On Nov. 25 a Bible school girl made her decision, and on evening of Dec. 2 two more made their stand. At this service two were immersed and received into church. On Dec. 1 a social evening was held to wish Mr. Long good-bye. B. A. Jackel made a presentation to him on behalf of church. In absence of W. Twiddy and B. Jackel on Dec. 9, R. Hayes and Lois Jackel took part in service for first time. The church is without a preacher, and is anxious for care of young converts. Mr. Kirby is home after five years in Services.

Frankston.—Church anniversary services on Dec. 9 and 12 were a great success. On the Sunday Dr. Kemp, Dr. Hinrichsen and Mr. Hagger gave appreciated addresses. Miss Sheahan, A. Wallington, K. and M. Morris contributed musical items. The chapel was full for all services. Thankoffering reached £80. R. Little was welcomed home. On the Wednesday evening a good programme was contributed by Misses Sheahan, Murphy and Cuddy, and Messrs. Cuddy and C. Wells. C. G. Taylor gave an inspirational address, after which supper was served. The church has suffered loss by the death of F. W. Bentley after an illness of some months. At W.M.B. the address and solo of Mrs. Fullarton, of Gardiner, were enjoyed. A Christmas gift has been sent to each inmate of Christian Guest Home from W.M.B. Gifts from church have been sent to men in Forces. On Dec. 15, over 40 kinders were entertained at party and Christmas tree.

Reservoir.—Kindergarten Christmas tree was held on Dec. 8. Mr. Alcorn being on vacation, J. Plummer took both meetings on Dec. 16. Most auxiliaries are in recess for Christmas holidays.

Fairfield.—At social evening to say good-bye to K. Patterson, a gift of books was made. Helpful addresses are being given by W. Quirk, who is conducting services until T. A. Fitzgerald commences his ministry in February. J.C.E. held social evening and lantern lecture on Dec. 15. Kindergarten Christmas party was held on Dec. 17. Miss J. Norman and C. North-east were to be married in chapel on Dec. 22.

Geelong.—C.E. society held a break-up social on Dec. 14; at close supper was enjoyed. At services on Dec. 16 Mr. Stirling gave Christmas addresses to good congregations. At morning meeting one lady was received into membership by transfer. Women's Aid £30 appeal for renovation of church residence has realised £26 to date. Sunday school increase and attendance campaign finished on Dec. 16 with 14 new scholars.

Footscray.—On Dec. 11 ladies of church closed year's work. Attractively decorated tables and appetising dinner. Reference was made to Mr. and Mrs. W. Easton's 25 years of married life. Mrs. Easton was presented with a silver compot, bouquets and anniversary cake to mark the event. Mr. Ritchie gave an address. It was noted in report for year that of the approximately £110 raised by ladies for all purposes, £46 had been allotted to new organ fund, £28 for block land appeal, and £10 to church. Sunday school at Tottenham averages 80 attendance under leadership of H. Pietzsch and staff. K.S.P. club closed year with a social on Dec. 17.

Northcote.—Offering for home missions was £62. In addition, £64/10/- was contributed per duplex envelopes during year. Ladies raised £70 towards Christian Guest Home hospital appeal. I.C.E. conducted a Christmas party at Guest Home, each guest receiving a present. K.S.P. and P.B.P. held a combined Christmas social; 80 were present. Women's Mission Band closed year's work with an excellent function at which a presentation of a fireside chair was made to W. T. Atkin. On Dec. 15 a social evening was held by choir, a travelling rug being presented to A. Brownrigg, choirmaster. On same night J.C.E. held Christmas social. 120 were present at Christmas tree arranged for kinders. A number of toys were made by members of church. Murray Williams, who has been assisting W. T. Atkin in the ministry during last three months of the college year, has gone home. A presentation of books was made to him. His addresses and services were appreciated. 168 was average for past month of those taking communion.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—Girls' Good Companion Club gave a social to many friends on Dec. 3. Swanston-st. and Lygon-st. members held a fellowship meeting on Dec. 4. Dr. A. J. Saunders being speaker. Mr. and Mrs. G. Berry gave a social to many friends on Dec. 8 for 21st birthday of their daughter Dorothy, who since has undergone an operation, and having made quick recovery is home again. Women's Mission Band and Y.P.S.C.E. have held final meetings for year. Kindergarten had a Christmas party with many parents present on Dec. 15. On Dec. 16, at final meeting of Bible class, Mrs. Coe rendered elocutionary items, and A. Wallington was soloist. At evening service choir rendered Christmas anthems; Miss W. Lee was soloist. C. G. Taylor was preacher at all meetings. Home mission offering now stands at £36/10/-. Church extends sympathy to Miss M. Casson and relatives in passing of her brother. Vic Tennant, J. Halsey, L. Langridge, E. Trewin and Jeff Emmerson were welcomed home.

Parkdale.—Mr. and Mrs. J. Wiltshire were welcomed at services on Dec. 9, and at Mission Band on 12th. Owing to sudden death of Mr. Wiltshire's brother at Portland on Dec. 14, R. Geyer preached at gospel service on 16th. Help of brethren who assisted at services when church awaited coming of full-time preacher has been much appreciated.

Preston.—There was one confession on Dec. 2. Christmas service was held on Dec. 16, choir rendering carols. An offering was received and donated to Social Service Department for "Food for Britain" appeal. Christmas treats for Bible school and kindergarten scholars were held on Dec. 15. Auxiliaries have gone into recess over holiday season.

Drumcondra.—Splendid singing by children and overflow meetings marked 20th anniversary of Bible school on Dec. 9. Monday evening, Dec. 10, concert and prize-giving were followed by supper for all. Les. Brooker was thanked for splendid addresses to children. A mother and daughter who recently made the good confession were baptised at gospel meeting on Dec. 16. Services of Mr. Pratt, who is giving week-end ministry, are appreciated. C.E. Society, after a profitable year, is in recess for holidays. On Dec. 18 Christmas tree for kinders was enjoyed. Home mission offering was £10/17/6.

North Richmond.—During year Young People's Fellowship made 75 soft and wooden toys for children at Austin Hospital and about 70 toys for kindergarten children. Christmas treats were held on Dec. 15, at 3 p.m., for kindergarten and cradle roll children, and at 8 p.m. for members of Bible school. On Dec. 16, at 7 p.m., a Christmas choral service was held, when special singing by choir and male quartette under C. Hall was enjoyed by a well attended meeting. A further special feature of service was singing by a group of kindergarten children trained by Mr. Hall. After 2½ years' service as choirmaster, Mr. Hall has been forced to resign because of ill-health, and special reference was made at close of meeting to the faithful service which he and his wife have rendered to church.

ADDRESSES

H. Evans (secretary Balwyn church, Vic.)—6 Dundee-st., Balwyn, E.8.

C. E. Warmbrunn (secretary Dandenong church, Vic.)—14 Power-st., Dandenong. Phone, Dandenong 488 (office hours).

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BANDSMEN

Brass or reed instrumentalists who would be interested in the formation of a band in connection with our churches, are invited to write the Social Service Department, stating instrument and experience. Those desiring to join as beginners are also invited to write the secretary.—Will. H. Clay, 241 Flinders-lane, Melbourne, C.1.

WANTED—TWENTY YOUNG WOMEN TO TRAIN FOR SERVICE

The Victorian Social Service Department would like to hear from such young women who contemplate Christian service in hospitals and homes with a view to giving assistance wherever it may be required. Enquiries for particulars should be accompanied by a personal letter, stating age and the nature of service desired. Qualified nurses, trainees, maids and such as are fitted to undertake service in the near future are also invited to write for information.—Will. H. Clay, secretary, 241 Flinders-lane, Melbourne, C.1.

BIRTH

FRANKLIN (nee Elma Humphrys).—A daughter born on Nov. 28, at Three Springs, W.A.

SILVER WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. W. Easton have pleasure in announcing the 25th anniversary of their wedding, celebrated at the church of Christ, Raleigh-st., Footscray, by the late E. G. Warren, on Dec. 18, 1920. Present address, 48 Frederick-st., Yarraville.

DEATH

KELLY.—On Dec. 15, at Port Fairy, Gertrude Emily, dearly beloved wife of William Kelly.

IN MEMORIAM

ANDERSON.—Loving memories of my dearly loved husband, Adiel; loving father of Loris, Heather and Douglas, called to higher service Dec. 27, 1936.

—Olive Anderson.

BENTLEY, Francis William.—In fond memory of our cherished friend and brother, Bill.

"We shall see him in the morning, when the clouds have rolled away;

We shall meet him at the dawning of a never ending day;

Every trial will be ended and the crosses all laid by;

When we meet him with our Saviour in our home beyond the sky."

—Mr. and Mrs. Gourlay and Joyce.

COOK, James (late of Bendigo).—In loving memory of our dear one, who passed away on Dec. 18, 1938. His is joy unspeakable.

—Inserted by his loving wife and family.

MCPHERSON.—In loving memory of our dear May, who passed away just three years ago today, Dec. 24, 1942.

Not just to-day, but every day, in silence we remember.

—Inserted by her sister and brother-in-law, Isabella and Harold Mottram, Millie and Elsie.

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For evening service leaves Fern Tree Gully 3.10 p.m. (bring tea), leaves church 9 p.m. for return.

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Obituary

Mrs. Fanny Lois Arbon

ON Dec. 1, at the age of 85 years, Mrs. Fanny Lois Arbon, a member of the church at Port Pirie, S.A., was called to be with Christ. She came to Port Pirie about 56 years ago, having been born in a Murray River district, and later resided at Gawler and Mundooora. For many years Mrs. Arbon was a faithful member of the Pirie church, and was always a willing helper in its activities. Although in later years it was not possible for her to attend, her interest in the work remained unabated. She was a tireless and energetic worker, and the proud head of a family of 12 children, 47 grandchildren, and 37 great-grandchildren. Her name is respected and her memory treasured by all who knew her.—A.R.P.

Mrs. Edith Alecia Chapple

AFTER a painful period of over eight months in hospital, Mrs. Chapple passed quietly to be with Jesus on Nov. 14. Born at Bendigo, Vic., in 1896, our sister removed as a young child with her parents to Kalgoorlie, W.A.; but returning later to the Murray district, was the first bride to be married in Berri church of Christ chapel. She spent all her married life in Berri district. As a member of the local church since her entrance by faith and obedience in May, 1924, she was greatly loved by all, and constant in attendance and active in the ministry of Christian service. Mrs. Chapple leaves a husband, W. N. Chapple, and one son Ivan; also two sisters, Mrs. Carpenter, of Berri, S.A., and Mrs. Walsh, of W.A.; and two brothers, W. and G. Williams, of W.A. These, with many other relatives, mourn her passing, and the church extends Christian sympathy to all. We sorrow not as those without hope, but as those anticipating a glorious re-union in Christ's presence. After a brief, well-attended service in the chapel, led by the writer, her body was laid to rest in Berri Cemetery, where W. Bartlett, from Gawler, in conducting the graveside service, spoke appreciatively of her life and beautiful Christian character.—L. G. Johnson.

John Scott Fletcher

AMONG those in the Frankston church (Vic.) who enlisted in the A.I.F., was John Scott Fletcher, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Fletcher, of Baxter. He was taken prisoner, and now the official report is, "Missing; believed died in Borneo." And so his parents and brother are mourning his loss, and the church at Frankston is sad at the passing of one of its number in early manhood, and especially as his passing is part of the cost of war. John was baptised at Chelsea, and linked up with Frankston church in the early days of the work there. His parents and brother are faithful members, and our deepest sympathy goes out to them in this time of trial. May our God comfort their hearts.—T.H.

William Jackson

AT the age of 78 years, William Jackson suddenly passed away to be with his Lord and Master on Sunday, Nov. 25. He had attended Ann-st., Brisbane, in the morning, and had just returned home when the call came. Born in Penzance, Cornwall, England, he came to Australia at an early age, and learning tailoring carried on this business in several States. Accepting Jesus Christ as his Saviour, he had fellowship with our churches at Kadina, S.A.; Lygon-st., Melbourne; Bundaberg and Ann-st., Queensland. It was in Bundaberg, working together with W. J. Way, that William Jackson helped to gather together members of the churches of Christ in order to hold the first breaking of bread service which took

place in his home. Nothing pleased our brother better during the time it was the writer's privilege to know him than to talk about the good and noble men who graced our brotherhood in days since past, William Jackson loved the church, and he loved his Saviour. Within half an hour of singing the praises and worshipping the Saviour whom he loved, he was called home, and he would not have had it otherwise. Mr. Jackson is survived by his wife, and our sincere prayers are that God will greatly comfort her in this her lonely hour of sorrow.—F.C.H.

H. Manning, R. B. Hutchison, A. Cryer, G. W. Taylor

SUBIACO church, W.A., records the death of four of its faithful members who made the supreme sacrifice in the second world war. Howard Manning, of the A.I.F., was killed while P.O.W. in Java during March, 1942. He rose to the rank of Sergeant. He was a useful young man in the church, and was for a time the efficient organist. Robert B. Hutchison met an untimely end when the ship on which he was being taken to Japan was torpedoed about Sept. 12, 1944. He was taken prisoner at the fall of Singapore. Robert was baptised at the age of ten years. He was a fine type of man and a good servant of Jesus Christ. Alan Cryer was a Flight Sergeant in the R.A.A.F. He was killed over England after returning from a raid on Germany. He was aged 22, and was baptised here in 1939. G. W. Taylor was a deacon of this church and a member of the choir. He was taken P.O.W. at the fall of Singapore. We had hopes of his safety and looked for his return. He died in Borneo in March of this year—a victim to Japanese cruelty. A service of remembrance for the fallen was held at Subiaco, and reference made to these noble men—our brothers. Sympathy is extended to their next-of-kin.—R. Raymond.

(Continued on opposite page.)

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Obituary — Continued

Mrs. Beatrice Margaret Marshall

THE church at Forestville, S.A., was saddened by the sudden home-call of Mrs. Marshall, who fell asleep in Jesus at her home on Nov. 17 at the age of 59 years. Mrs. Marshall, who had recently undergone an operation, was home again, and had resumed fellowship with the church. It was thought she was making steady and satisfactory recovery, but the passing came very suddenly. Mrs. Marshall was baptised by Mr. Warsaw at Murray Bridge, and became a foundation member of the church there. Several years ago she and her son Alfred and daughter Mavis were welcomed into fellowship at Forestville, and until her death she was an active member of church. Our sister's mortal remains were laid to rest in the Murray Bridge cemetery, B. W. Manning officiating in absence of the writer. Christian love of the church is extended to all who mourn, and we look forward to the happy reunion by-and-bye.—W.A.R.

Mrs. Wm. McGregor

ON Nov. 2, at her home, 27 Fairfax-ave., Millswood Estate, S.A., Mrs. Wm. McGregor, at the age of 83 years, was called home after a long illness. Prior to her marriage Margaret Rebecca Toseland at fifteen years of age accepted Christ as her Saviour, and was baptised by W. Judd. On Oct. 29, 1890, she was united in marriage to Mr. Wm. McGregor at Lochiel, by H. D. Smith. With her husband she was a devoted servant of the Lord, and for many years enjoyed fellowship of the churches at Unley and Glenelg. In 1903 she with her husband and family moved to W.A. and took membership with the church at Lake-st., Perth, where they remained in membership for twenty years. Returning to S.A. with her husband, she took membership with the church at Forestville, where she attended regularly until failing health confined her to the home for ten years. She loved the church, and always had a deep interest in all its activities, especially the Dorcas Society, where she had been a faithful worker. She possessed a beautiful nature, and was noted for her good works and kindly deeds. Those who knew her best, loved her most. Her twin sister, Mrs. Parkes, predeceased her about twelve months ago. She leaves a widower, Wm. McGregor, and two surviving children, Cleve, Oakleigh, Vic.; Jean (Mrs. Mallyon), Forestville, and Allison (deceased). Many beautiful floral tributes marked the esteem in which our sister was held. She was laid to rest at West Terrace Cemetery. J. T. Traih conducted the service in the house, and W. A. Russell, assisted by H. P. Manning, at the graveside. We commend all who sorrow to him who is too wise to err, and too good to be unkind.—W.A.R.

Peter Orr

EXACTLY twelve weeks after the passing of his wife, Peter Orr, of 2 Glen-Dhu-st., Launceston, Tas., answered his home-call on Nov. 23 in his 87th year. Born in Scotland, our

brother with Mrs. Orr and son (now Professor John Orr, of Edinburgh University) resided for some years in Albany, W.A., before taking up permanent residence in Launceston. His first connection with the church dates back about 54 years when, through the ministry of J. G. Price, he joined the brotherhood. He was secretary of the church for some 25 years, and was an elder at Margaret-st. before serving in that capacity at Sandhill, of which he was a foundation member. His home was always open to the brethren in Christ, and many will remember with gratitude the hospitality so cheerfully afforded them. In his prime Mr. Orr was a forceful preacher and a great student of the Word, with a remarkable memory and gift of apt quotation which made him a force for good in the community and amongst those with whom he made contact. Of him it can be said that "he ever put first things first." Services at home and graveside were conducted by J. Hodgson, who paid heartfelt tribute to the memory of our brother, E. A. Stevens and H. Clements assisting. All privileged to know Peter Orr join in sympathy for the family bereft, and mourn the passing of a consistent, earnest Christian who, like the Master he served so well, "went about doing good." "He giveth his beloved sleep."

Mrs. E. J. Priddeth

THERE passed away in her home at North Auburn, N.S.W., on Oct. 29, Mrs. E. J. Priddeth. She was born in February, 1865, at Smithton, North-west Coast of Tasmania. Later she and her people moved to Melbourne, and over 60 years ago she was baptised at the church of Christ, Stanton-st., Collingwood. Immediately she came into the church she became an active worker, teaching in the Sunday school for eleven years. Coming to Sydney, she linked up with the church at the City Temple. As soon as she took membership she entered into the work of the Sunday school and the Christian Endeavor Society; she also busied herself in the work of home missions. The thing for which she was remembered best was her work in connection with the Chinese Sunday school in Campbell-st. She was connected with that work from its inception, and after a quarter of a century's consecrated service retired owing to ill-health. Owing to distance from a meeting-house and to failing health she was unable, for a number of years, to attend any service. She was loved and honored by all those of the older generation who knew her and her work. The writer officiated at the chapel and at the graveside.—Ethelbert Davis.

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(Continued from page 602.)

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The Australian Christian

Page 612

December 19, 1945

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of our Lord; and

MAY the New Year be filled
with rich blessings as he leads
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