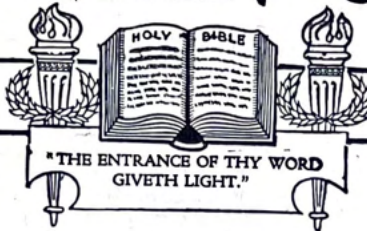


The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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Preacher and Social Problems

Co-operating with the Social Service Committee, we shall present a series of articles on social questions. Stan Neighbour, of Oakleigh, Vic., writes on vital principles the church ought to acknowledge.

THE activities of the Christian minister can be confined within very narrow limits or be extended to embrace a multiplicity of interests. Just how wide his sphere of activity will be, will depend upon the individual minister; having regard, of course, to his training, character and personality. It has been common to refer to the "social gospel" and the "personal gospel" as if there were two gospels. There are not two gospels, but one, with personal and social implications.

A preacher may over emphasise either the personal or social message of the gospel to the exclusion of the other side; but in doing so he will produce a caricature of that which our Lord intended. To think that we have exhausted the content of the gospel when we urge men and women to attain to a future personal salvation is to misrepresent Christ. To divorce the social from the spiritual and seek to obtain social righteousness apart from changed lives is to totally disregard the frailties and passions of human nature.

The preacher who is true to his Lord will seek to give due emphasis to both aspects. *Social problems are those which affect the general or public interest.* We are here concerned not with man as an isolated individual, but in the sum total of his relationships with all other members of the human family.

Whilst recognising intemperance and gambling as social evils which must occupy our thought, and demand our responsive activity to deal with them, we can say that Christian people generally have been long aware of these problems. We need not therefore concentrate upon them beyond saying that we must still be prepared to think out ways and means of effectively combating them.

I.

The world depression beginning about 1929 forced Christian people, preachers especially, to take a fresh interest in economics. Economics deals with the satisfaction of man's wants. We had built our economic system on the assumption of scarcity of products in relationship to man's needs. We have discovered that God is not parsimonious but prodigal in his gifts. When the earth brought forth in abundance, an economic system—in the interests of its own sanctity—dictated the wholesale destruction of food and raw materials; and that in face of the needs of children suffering from malnutrition. During the period between the two wars, 1919-39, Brazil destroyed over thirty million bags of coffee, Canada, the

U.S.A. and the Argentine had destroyed millions of pounds worth of wheat. Sir John Orr stated that nearly twenty millions of the population of Britain were permanently undernourished.

The preacher who has the spirit of his Master cannot but be moved to action in the face of these facts. He must cry out against the injustices revealed. He will quickly discover that he has the support of God's messengers, the prophets. Micah cries out against those who "abhor justice and pervert all equity." Amos declares God's warning to the rich "that oppress the poor, that crush the needy," and declares that the scrupulous observance of burnt offerings and solemn assemblies will of themselves avail nothing. "But," says the prophet, "let justice roll down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream." James warns those who would give pride of place to dividends. "Come now, ye rich, weep and howl for your miseries that are coming upon you. . . . Behold, the hire of the laborers who mowed your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, crieth out."

II.

Just here the preacher must guard against a class bias. He must ever remember that just as the Christian religion has neither race nor color consciousness, neither has it class consciousness. We will never solve the economic problem by identifying ourselves wholly either with the employer class or the laboring class. Paul helps us to keep the balance. He tells workers not to render "eye service" (i.e., working while the boss's eye is on us), but "whatsoever ye do, work heartily as unto the Lord, and not unto men." Employers are likewise to recognise their duty towards employees. They must "forbear threatening" and render unto their employees "that which is just and equal." The Christian employer is to treat his employee "no longer as a servant, but more than a servant, a brother beloved." And to all he says, "If any man will not work, neither let him eat." For the Christian the whole of life must be a stewardship for God.

Work is a blessing so long as it is not slavery. Every person has a right to productive employment. Every person has a right to the necessary education and technical training that will fit them for the work they are best suited by temperament and ability to perform. Too many have been compelled, by necessity, to earn quickly, to do work for which they are fitted neither by temperament

nor inclination. Such work is a drudgery. How different even hard work becomes when it is something we like doing! A young lad recently obtained work in which he is intensely interested. He enjoys his work, and in his own words "gets paid for doing it." Both the boy and his employer are satisfied.

III.

Our Lord long ago said of the sabbath, "The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath." Man was more important than the sabbath. Would not Jesus say to-day, "Industry was made for man, and not man for industry"? *Man is more important than industry.* D. R. Davies remarks, "In both slavery and feudalism, the master is responsible for the worker's existence. In contemporary industry, the employer is responsible for the worker *only for so long as he hires him.* . . . When the employer can no longer employ his worker *profitably* he dismisses him, i.e., he disowns responsibility." It is useless blaming the individual employer; he, like the worker, is a victim of the system. But since man is of more value than the system, the system must be changed. It is here that the preacher must become the prophet and indict the system. If any group through selfishness seeks to uphold the present system because it pays them dividends, they must be made to feel their shame. Jesus didn't hesitate to indict those who through greed and selfishness stood in the way of religious liberty and enlightenment. They crucified him, but that didn't hinder the carrying forward of his programme. We must fearlessly indict the present system wherever it imposes injustices upon the masses. It must either be drastically modified or replaced.

IV.

It is the preacher's business to state clearly where the present system violates Christian principles, and to create a Christian conscience on the matter which will demand a change. This is specially necessary in a State that claims to be at least nominally Christian. It is then the business of the Christian economist to seek to implement the necessary changes. Much work has already been done, and numerous books and pamphlets have set people thinking. Some such pamphlets are, "Malvern Conference Report," "A Christian Programme for Social Justice," and many others, including several statements that have been published by Roman Catholics. Whatever the changes in the present system, it is certain there must be less of the spirit of competition and more of the spirit of co-operation if we are to come into harmony with Christian principles. Our love for God must have a correlative love for our neighbors which will concern itself not alone with their spiritual welfare but include as well their material needs. We must affirm the passion for social justice that characterised the early Christians who saw to it that "distribution was made unto each, according as any one had need."



Rural Life Sunday

● W. R. Hibburt, Victorian Youth Director, declares that the rural Sunday school can help the world, and urges that efforts be made to assist spiritual work in country districts.

MANY of our best citizens testify to their good fortune in attending a rural Sunday school during the growing-up period. Things that happen in a rural Sunday school loom large in the mind of the scholar. This is implemented by the fine gracious men and women who after a strenuous week add to their over plus of duties the responsibilities of teaching the young in Bible truths.

An Australian Asset

The humble rural church is an asset and contributes to the reservoir of our national spiritual life. Schools situated in the open spaces have built spacious souls for the nation. Test any city congregation and you will be amazed how many had their commencement days in a rural school and church. One of the most vital pieces of Christian youth work is taking place in unobtrusive rural schools where the scholars, free from the artificialities of city life, yield themselves unto the highest.

A Rural Resourcefulness

How to run a graded school of 30 scholars with two teachers may puzzle the urban dweller, but not the rural-minded worker. It was 10 a.m. and the writer was present to inspect a rural school in an uninviting hall. There were two teachers but no scholars. Presently a bell rang, and instantly the piano played, and the scholars, led by beginners and primary children, marched into their seats. They wisely used one side of the hall to suggest a sense of unity. While standing, the younger children had their worship exercises.

Their simple songs and sweetness prompted a spirit of worship that made the hall the house of God. The school was then seated and shared a prayer with the superintendent. Provision was made for juniors and intermediates to sing a worship hymn suitable to their years. At class time an older girl, who had been tutored, told the story to the infants, seated in a well-chosen part of the building, while the teachers divided the remainder of the scholars into juniors and intermediates. We salute the teachers of the rural school and the preacher who supports and encourages them.

The Rural Reservoir

"The reservoirs of the rural areas have been flowing into the man-thirsty cities." The growth in population of the Australian cities is almost entirely at the expense of the countryside. The percentage of bread-winners engaged in agriculture declined from 24 per cent. in 1891 to 19.4 per cent. in 1933. The war has speeded up the drift from country to city.

While the church should concern itself about the political and social trends that allow the drift to continue, it should realise that, to Christianise public life at its source, the rural church must be encouraged and strengthened. We appeal to the various State brotherhoods to help their home missionary committees and young people's departments to extend their work in rural areas. An annual "Rural Life Sunday," magnifying the work of the rural school, church and preacher, would be purposeful action on the part of city congregations.

The Church a Guide

We are indebted to the Department of Information for the following interesting statement.

AT the Albert Hall a year ago the Archbishop of Canterbury, presiding at a mass meeting arranged by the Industrial Christian Fellowship, replied to critics who maintained it was not the business of the church to guide people on social and industrial questions.

"When we look upon the society with which we have been familiar," he said, "two points in its ordering at least challenge the judgment of the church, which must inevitably be uttered in condemnation. The first is the broken fellowship of our society—what Disraeli called the two nations. This broken fellowship rests upon the materialism of our habitual outlook. This leads to that gross disparity of wealth and poverty which must at all costs be remedied. And it leads also to a lack of leisure which in an age of mechanised industry involves lack of opportunity for a fully human life. To provide for all adequate leisure, with the means to utilise and enjoy it, must be one of our primary aims."

Sir Stafford Cripps, speaking on "The Challenge of Christianity," said, "It is not the function of the church as an organised body to enter the lists of the political parties; it is for the church to provide the moral force and driving power for social and economic development. Technical details of government and legislation are for the politicians. But this is not to imply that politicians should be materialists. We require more than ever today courageous Christians to our political life. Christian principles must be made so to permeate public opinion that no government can act against them and those principles must be related to the social and economic problems of the moment."

"Greatness lies not in being strong, but in the right use of strength; and strength is not used rightly when it only serves to carry a man above his fellows for his own solitary glory."

Power in the Cross

H. J. Patterson, M.A.

Text.—"I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me."—John 12: 32.

ONE type of philosophy gives place to another, and the scientific theories of today make way for those of to-morrow, but the grand theme of redemption through the uplifted Son of man and of God remains constant. Politicians and orators have sought to capture the minds of men, but most have succeeded only for a short while. The preachers of the gospel, however, in spite of their self-confessed inability in many directions, continue to sway the thinking and the lives of people. The theme of God's grace to man is enshrined in art and literature, and none can deny the unique place it occupies in human thought.

In the Words

there is a note of sadness. "He was despised and rejected of men." He must bear man's sin in his own body on the tree. What that lifting up and the bearing of sin means not any one of us can fully comprehend. A mother or a father sometimes bears the sin of the son or daughter when such have done wickedly, and the more godly the parent the more do they bear the sin. But the lifting up of Jesus has far more to it than that. "He was made sin for us."

But there is also a note of power in those words, for he said, "I will draw all men unto me." The earthly mission might seem a comparative failure. He had been limited geographically and numerically. A few only had listened to him. But there was an inner consciousness of final victory.

In What Lies That Power?

Not in that a man died, for thousands do that for others in these horrible days of war. His life was different, and so was his death. Here was the God-man dying to save sinners. Because of what Jesus did God saves. God was always willing for man to be saved, but here in the self-giving of Christ we have the harmonising of the love and justice or righteousness of God. It has also a powerful moral effect. Can any man worthy of the name pay no attention to an earthly Saviour of his body? And is a man made in God's image worthy of his name if he pay no regard to the Saviour of his soul?

A Power That Resists

Why doesn't Christ draw all men immediately unto him? There is a potential power that can make even the power of God to fail. God limited himself in making man in his own image. Man can say "Yes" or "No." He can give way to the lower when God appeals to the higher part of his nature. Man is of the earth and also a partaker of the divine nature, and a fight is continually in progress. He can deliberately and definitely say "No" to God, and God will do nothing with him. He may bar the door of the heart and, against his better judgment, resist God because he wishes to serve the interests of the lower part of his being. He wishes pleasure gross and sensual, and he loves money for its own sake. He cannot serve two masters. It sometimes happens that a deliberate choice of sin is made by the professing Christian. The real Christian will not choose sin. There are failures, as the parables of Jesus indicate, but it is man who exercises the God-like power of choice. If one leaves the church or forgets God, let him not blame God or the church, but himself. Every man knows what he ought to do. The cross of Christ is a powerful factor in determining what a man ought to do. Some day Christ will be victorious. When man uses his God-given faculties aright Christ will draw all.

WOMEN'S PAGE

The Courageous Life

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnal, 577; Sankey, 685.

Prayer.—O God, the God of all goodness and of all grace, who art worthy of a greater love than we can either give or understand; fill our hearts, we pray thee, with such love toward thee, that nothing may seem too hard for us to do or to suffer in obedience to thy will; and grant that thus loving thee, we may become daily more like unto thee, and finally obtain the crown of life which thou hast promised to those that love thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.—(From Pocket Manual of Prayers, 1860.)

The Lord's Prayer.

Bible Reading.—Joshua 1: 1-9.

For Devotional Talk:

THE COURAGEOUS LIFE

"REJOICE in the Lord always, again I will say, Rejoice. Let your forbearance be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. In nothing be anxious, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God which passeth all understanding shall guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus."

If you asked anyone not acquainted with the New Testament to describe the situation in which the writer and the readers of these words lived, he would probably say: "Both very comfortably placed. The words show a breezy optimism, untroubled by the trials of life." And he would be wrong. For the writer was in prison, where he had been confined for years, and the recipients were members of a church which was established in persecution, and knew what it meant to suffer the loss of property and goods for Christ's sake.

Here are noble words by R. L. Stevenson:

If I have faltered more or less
In my great task of happiness;
If I have moved among my race
And shown no glorious morning face;
If beams from happy human eyes
Have moved me not; if summer skies,
Books, and my food, and summer rain
Knocked at my sullen heart in vain;
Lord, thy most pointed pleasure take,
And stab my spirit broad awake.

A critic once complained that the great defect of the writings of R.L.S. was a lack of the touch of pain. He had "evidently never truly known what suffering is or he would not speak so complacently about its endurance." How little he knew! "For fourteen years," R.L.S. wrote privately to a friend, "I have not had a day's real health; I have wakened sick and gone to bed weary; and I have done my work unflinchingly. I have written in bed and written out of it, written in haemorrhages, written in sickness, written torn by coughing, written when my head swam for weakness. . . . I was made for a contest, and the Powers have so willed it that my battlefield should be this dingy, inglorious one of the bed and the physic bottle."

Not many years ago, in the reign of Edward VII. of England, the mayor of Doncaster was the late Joseph Firth Clark, a Friend or Quaker. During his mayoralty the famous Doncaster Races occurred, and the mayor received

an invitation—a royal invitation being a command—to meet the King on the race-course immediately after the St. Leger race had been run. Clark refused the proffered dignity, replying in a strain that must have been appreciated by the broad-minded monarch whom he addressed. He wrote to Edward:

"I have a profound respect and regard for the most gracious King, whom I desire to honor in every way as one of his most loyal subjects. Though I have lived in Doncaster all my life I have never once attended the races, and did not therefore feel I could consistently break through the rule even for so great an honor."

The incident created a sensation. Many were scandalised. But the value of such moral heroism will be recognised by every generous mind.

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnal, 587; Sankey, 680.

Business Session.

Solo.

Home Missions Notes.

Overseas News.

Prayer Session.

Solo.

Address.—"Christian Education for Community Life."

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnal, 601; Sankey, 786.

Benediction.

FROM STATE EXECUTIVES

Victoria

At September meeting of the Victorian Executive, Matron Cook, of Melbourne City Mission, was speaker.

We regret to report that Mrs. McCann has met with an accident and will be unable to carry on her usual duties for several months.

Mrs. T. H. Scambler has been ill, but we are glad to know that her health is improving.

South Australia

Average attendances at monthly executive meetings are good. At September meeting a welcome was extended to Mrs. Hammer.

Much interest is maintained in united work. Members of Sisters' Conference assisted in a button day for Y.W.C.A. They co-operated in a "musical at home" arranged by Women's United Church Association in aid of the Children's Hospital.

Mrs. Bartlett was asked to be the representative of Women's Conference at Baptist Women's League, and Mesdames Trowbridge and Charlack to be representatives at W.C.T.U. convention luncheon.

During the quarter ending July, 248 visits were paid to public and private hospitals and institutions by the hospital committee.

Mrs. Bartlett, representative on the committee of Morialta Children's Home, reports everything is going well and that the children are in good health.

Queensland

Some of the flowers used for decorations at overseas Day of Fellowship, held at Annerley, were grown from seed which Miss Caldicott brought from India. Mrs. Berlin, superintendent, reports that offering for Christmas cheer amounted to £5/13/-.

Four hundred pence cards have been distributed by home mission superintendent, Mrs. Bates.

Prayer Meeting Committee (Mrs. Burnham, supt.) held a luncheon at Hawthorne, and an offering of £4/8/6 was taken for home missions.

344 books and papers, 378 packets of sweets, 57 boxes matches, and cakes, strawberries and flowers have been distributed to hospitals by the Hospital Committee. Miss Price is superintendent of this committee.

Mrs. Machin, superintendent of Soldiers' Help Society, states that 148 letters and cards have been sent to members of the fighting services, and eleven canteen orders to boys in New Guinea.

At September meeting a motion was passed congratulating Mr. C. Adernann on winning his seat in the Federal elections. The speaker was Mrs. Tipper, of W.C.T.U.

Tasmania

At executive meeting on Sept. 6 the president, Mrs. Madel-Cole, was welcomed back after her stay in hospital.

A report was read from northern vice-president, Mrs. Prichard, which told of continued good attendances at sisters' meetings.

Dorcas reports received from Devonport, Dover, Invermay, Margaret-st. and Sandhill showed that progressive work is being done. Parcels of clothing for Aborigines' Mission, knitting for comforts fund, cakes and parcels for the boys on active service, are a few of the activities. In country districts sick visiting is included.

A motion was carried that a letter be sent to His Excellency the Governor, Sir Ernest Clark, and Lady Clark, conveying congratulations on the completion of ten years' service as Governor of Tasmania.

Mrs. Blackburn, of Invermay, has been appointed assistant superintendent for isolated members. The superintendent, Mrs. Clifford, Cuthbert-ave., New Town, Tas., will be glad of literature suitable to send isolated members.

Arrangements were completed for the Tasmanian Women's State Day of Prayer on Sept. 22. One meeting would be at Collins-st., Hobart, and another at Margaret-st., Launceston.

Western Australia

The Women's Conference has recently amalgamated with W.C.T.U. in servicing of canteens for Service men and women, and a good work is being done.

New South Wales

Mr. P. E. Thomas, conference president, was speaker at executive meeting on Sept. 3. Miss J. Rofe was welcomed back after serious illness.

At annual meeting of Women's Inter-church Council, Mrs. P. D. McCallum was elected a vice-president.

The executive of Women's Conference will be glad to have names of any young women of our churches who are in the Services who have come to, or are coming to, Sydney. If you write to Mrs. Knight (hon. sec.), 19 Albert-st., Petersham, every effort will be made to entertain the girls and give any help possible.

WOMEN'S FEDERAL CONFERENCE LIVING LINK

CONGRATULATIONS to our Victorian sisters who have raised £123/6/- for the work among the aborigines. Mrs. T. H. Scambler and Mrs. C. Brough, representatives on the Federal Missionary Education Department, made the appeal on behalf of the Victorian Women's Conference. They thank all who generously helped, and feel that a pleasing feature was the fine response from many country churches. The quotas for each State have been sent to the executive secretaries, and it is hoped that announcement will soon be made that through the Federal Women's Conference the women of our churches will be supporting their living link to represent them among the aborigines of our own land.

Notes on Current Topics

Mr. Churchill's Eggs

AUSTRALIANS tempted to grumble at our mild rationing restrictions may be helped by remembering Mrs. Roosevelt's story of Mr. Churchill's explanation of his cheering when the breakfast tray was taken to his room in the White House, Washington: "I saw two eggs coming, and had forgotten what that would be like."

Mrs. Roosevelt's Visit

The brief visit of Mrs. Roosevelt to New Zealand and Australia was of more than usual interest. The warmth of the welcome extended to her not only marked the appreciation of our people but indicated the value of her visit. One of the things which will be likely to stabilise the world is a closer co-operation of the Anglo-Saxon peoples. If the British Commonwealth of Nations and the great American republic can continue to work together for the common good, the gain will be very great. Association of Americans with Australians in war and in peace should be of exceedingly great value. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's visit, though so brief, can play an important part in binding the two countries together. Her personal qualities and ability, her friendly interest and desire to meet the people and learn their minds and ways, have evoked a warm response.

The War on the Jews

The Jewish Affairs Institute in its survey, "Hitler's Ten-Year War on the Jews," publishes the following statistics:—

Jews in Europe when Hitler went to war—8,300,000.

Jews in Europe to-day—3,300,000.

Jews destroyed by murder, pogroms, planned starvation, forced labor, deportation—more than 3,000,000.

Jews who found asylum in Soviet Russia—1,800,000. In other countries—180,000.

What a fearful story of cruelty and of suffering lies behind these figures! British and American leaders have declared that the "instigators and actual perpetrators of these crimes" will yet be punished. The certainty of this redress does not depend upon the desire or ability of earthly powers. There is a God who says, "Vengeance is mine," and a day of account will certainly come.

Christian Social Order

An Anglican minister, Mr. W. G. Coughlan, has been appointed director of the Christian Social Order Movement of the Church of England. In an address in St. Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney, Mr. Coughlan said that the tasks facing the movement were twofold and interlocked: Firstly, there was the need to influence the social structure and material situation, including politics, he said; and secondly, the need to provide better men and women. In the course of his address the preacher stated that "the supreme test of democracy is before us. Will enough individuals forget self and think of the world as a whole? Will there be sufficient individuals so to guide Governments that they will really represent them and will carry out the people's determination to end exploitation and have that better world which alone will justify the great sacrifices of war and make them seem worth while?" These are most important questions. Better men are wanted. The best men are those truly regenerated and truly Christian, who are animated by the spirit of Christ and resolved that, so far as they can help to determine it, the kingdom of God will come and the will of God be done, as in heaven so on earth.

A. R. Mann

The Bible

IT is the most wonderful Book ever written, and has been translated into more languages than any other. It contains:

God's laws for man's conduct.
God's light for man's guidance.
God's comfort for man's sorrows.
God's warnings against man's perils.
God's food for man's spiritual life.
God's armour for man's conflicts.
God's answers to man's questions.
God's history of man's fall.
God's method of man's redemption.
God's purposes concerning man's future.

It is God's revelation of his eternal, unchanging and infinite love; his unerring wisdom; his unlimited power; his absolute holiness; his universal supremacy.

It is God's love-letter to his children; his messenger of hope to the despondent; of pardon to the guilty; of promise to the believer.

It is so simple that he may run who reads; the illiterate can find in it the way of life. It is so deep that the most scholarly cannot exhaust its teaching nor plumb its depths.

Its composition is the outcome of many minds, in many ages, under varied circumstances. It was written by learned men and shepherds, by herdsmen and fishermen, by kings and prophets, by priests and a publican, by singers and a doctor. In spite of its variety it is a harmonious whole. The Old Testament throws light upon the New, and the New confirms the witness of the Old.

It is adapted to the needs of every age and to people of every clime and color; it is translatable into every language, so that to-day it may be read by a thousand millions of our fellow men. It can interest the young; enthuse the most virile and comfort the aged. It teaches experience from the past; gives joy in the present; inspires hope for the future.

By the power of the Holy Spirit it regenerates the individual, uplifts the community and civilises whole nations. It bears the hallmark of heaven and is the Divine instrument for making a new earth.

Within its covers the antiquarian may find delight; the historian may trace the past; the hero-worshipper may find objects of reverence; the vocalist may find psalms and hymns; the poet may get inspiration; the botanist may find fields of beauty; the story-lover may find entertainment, and no one who desires profit whether mental or spiritual shall seek it in vain.

Best of all, it reveals that God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son—our Lord Jesus Christ—that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.—Selected.

You may not be able to leave your children a great inheritance, but day by day you may be weaving coats for them which they will wear through all eternity.—T. L. Cuyler.

The Home Circle

J. C. F. Pittman

"SUCH AN OFFER!"

"SUCH an offer!" Full and free!
Is it really meant for me?
That all my sins on Christ were laid,
That all my debt by him was paid?
Yes; Jesus says it, who has died:—
"Believe," and thou art justified.

"Such an offer!" Pardon now
For hidden sin, and broken vow!
For years of cold neglect and scorn;
Can mercy's ray upon me dawn?
Yes; Jesus died instead of thee;
His death for thine, must be thy plea.

"Such an offer!" Peace and joy
Untainted by the world's alloy;
The sweet assurance of a Friend
Who, loving, loves unto the end;
The knowledge now of sins forgiven
And of a home prepared in heaven.

"ALL EQUAL HERE!"

"IT is related of the Duke of Wellington," says Mr. Foster, "that once, when he remained to partake of the Lord's Supper at the Parish Church, a very poor old man knelt down by his side. Someone whispered to the poor communicant to move further away or to wait until the Duke had received the sacred elements. But the eagle eye of the great commander had caught the meaning of the touch and the whisper. He clasped the old man's hand to prevent his rising, and said firmly and reverently, 'Do not move; we are all equal here.'" We are all one at the Lord's table.

A FAIR RETURN

Minister (arousing himself from a nap in the barber's chair).—"Finished, eh?"
Barber.—"Yes, sir, some time ago."
Minister.—"Indeed! Then I must have been indulging in a quiet nap."
Barber.—"You have, sir."
Minister.—"It was certainly very kind of you to let me sleep. The rest has done me good, and I am very thankful to you for what was a very refreshing sleep."
Barber.—"Don't mention it, sir. It's only a fair return: I was at your church last Sunday."

The Family Altar

TOPIC.—AN UNANSWERABLE ARGUMENT

Sept. 27—Psa. 107: 15-39.
" 28—John 1: 35-46.
" 29—Acts 3: 1-11.
" 30—Gal. 2: 19-21.
Oct. 1—2 Tim. 1: 3-14.
" 2—Acts 21: 37-40.
" 3—Nehemiah 9: 24-38; Acts 22: 1-21.

WHEN Paul made his defence in the presence of men who were clamoring for his death, he did not argue, but gave a terse, clear record of his conversion. He might have presented the usual evidence for the faith he possessed, but such arguments would have fallen flat upon the ears of a hostile crowd. What he did was to show the transforming power of the gospel of Christ. Argument is good, at times, but usually, personal testimony is much more effective. Even this, in the incident of our New Testament lesson, proved ineffective, for the multitude cried, "Away with him." Yet, as a rule, testimony is more fitting than argument, and more likely to break down prejudice and win souls for Christ.

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

W. R. Hibburt



HUNGRY FOR NEWS

THE young men and women of the Services are eager for news from home, friends and church. Next to prayer, writing is our best line of communication. Letters not only convey news, but are gestures of remembrance and maintain the sanctifying influence of home and the church. We should not relax in keeping open these lines of communication of all that is good, true and pure. Don't forget to include a letter of encouragement to our chaplains. They are our representatives and need all the reinforcement we are able to supply.

Youth Leaders as Engineers

Four State leaders (Messrs. W. Beller, H. E. Greenwood, F. C. Hunting, W. R. Hibburt) attended the Convention of the National Council of Religious Education of Australia and seized the opportunity to confer about the interests and activities common to all States.

Adequate teaching material and methods first came under careful review. Through the courtesy of the editors of the Austral Graded Lessons, they were able to confer about many factors entering into the production of suitable lesson material. It would appear that a stage has been reached when editors, youth leaders and teachers must share the responsibility of meeting the needs of the new day. Ways and means are being explored whereby the States and individuals may lend a hand. It is not too early to state that such a procedure must find departments willing to accept more financial responsibility and share the mental costs.

Matters on which the leaders reached agreement will be presented to the various departments. The possibility of federalising State plans, programmes and patterns next came under review. At present federalised work is limited to Bible school examination work. There is a growing desire to extend co-operation to through-the-week activities, Youth Week plans, and the development of an Australia-wide auxiliary for young adults. Agreement was reached on plans and patterns. This conference may be viewed by many as incidental, but those engaged manifested a spirit of unity and earnestness. "Listeners-in" would have felt a sense of guilt in learning that men grappling with the big brotherhood issue are only part-time leaders or involved in an overplus of routine work.

More and more the whole membership must come to realise the essential nature of the youth work being energetically and ably conducted on their behalf.

Victorian Camp Calendar

Christmas Camp—Saturday, Dec. 25, to Wednesday, Dec. 29.

New Year Camp—Thursday, Dec. 30, to Monday, Jan. 3, 1944.

Explorer Leaders' Camp—Jan. 22, 23.

Good Companion Leaders' Camp—Feb. 5, 6.

Hall's Gap Camp—Wednesday, February 16, to Wednesday, Feb. 23.

Mt. Evelyn is the rendezvous of the first four camps. Only those 16 years and over are eligible to attend the Christmas and New Year camps. When making application for annual holidays remember the camp in the Grampians at Hall's Gap.

Victorian Forward Thrust

IN BIBLE SCHOOL WORK.

TOTAL GAINS—EIGHTH WEEK

78 Teachers, 595 Scholars.

AIM: 100 New Teachers.
1000 New Scholars.

N.Z. Observes Historic Anniversary

"Declaration and Address"

FROM September 5 to 7 our churches throughout the Dominion observed the anniversary of the publishing of the "Declaration and Address" on September 7, 1809. Many special features helped to make the celebration one of the most effective ventures undertaken here for many years. On the 5th all preachers spoke on the subject matter of the famous document at both services. Special week-night meetings were also held in many churches on the Tuesday, the actual anniversary date. Principal Haddon prepared a booklet entitled, "Union in Truth," being a summary of the "Declaration and Address," the circumstances that gave our movement birth, and the careers of the Campbells. This booklet has been distributed to every member of our churches and to ministers of all other communions. The expense of the whole production has been borne by Nelson Patching, treasurer of the general executive. A large card, suitable for framing, and bearing pictures of the Campbells along with a summary of the "Declaration and Address," has been presented to all churches and preachers by Mervyn J. Williamson, chairman of the general executive. The current issue of the "N.Z. Christian" has a leader by W. S. Lowe, who outlines the great events culminating in the publication of the great charter of our movement. "The Quest," the young people's publication, also devoted two pages

to the presentation of the historic facts and leading ideas of the declaration. "The Religious Education Quarterly" fell into line by providing material from the pen of Principal Haddon to be of use to teachers and youth workers in their presentation of the facts of the beginnings of our movement to our young people.

The General Election and the Christian Message

That the Campaign for Christian Order has impressed itself on the minds of the people of New Zealand has been shown clearly in the spate of election addresses that are deluging the Dominion at present. Speakers of all political creeds have made reference to it, and many of the political papers have pledged themselves to the furtherance of practical Christianity in the nation. Already questionnaires raised in the campaign manifesto are being presented to candidates, and some candidates are pledging themselves to stand by its principles. Undoubtedly some of this is electioneering, but much of it is genuine. It also shows that candidates recognise that a large section of the church is vitally interested in the application of Christianity to national and political life.

E. P. Aderman in Politics

Chaplain-Captain Aderman, preacher of the Dominion-rd. church, and one-time lecturer at the Glen Leith Bible College, is a candid

for the National Party for the New Plymouth seat. Already two ministers of religion are in the House, as there is no bar to ministers of religion standing for Parliament here in New Zealand.

The News-Letter

The general executive has commenced publication of a monthly news-letter. The first issue, just off the press, is introduced by the conference president, Godfrey Fretwell, and tells facts about committee members and future policy. Plans are outlined as follow: 1943, clear the decks for action (a year of preparation); 1944, centennial year (a year of spiritual offensives); 1945, a year of spiritual victories.—G. R. Stirling.

Open Forum

FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS

(Correspondents are reminded that letters should not be more than 300 words in length, that names and not pseudonyms should be used, and that once a writer has had his say on a particular topic he should leave the way open for somebody else. We do not desire unsatisfactory crossfiring. The insertion of a letter does not imply editorial approval of its contents.—Ed.)

PREACHERS' SALARIES

I HAVE read with interest the letters in the "Australian Christian" on preachers' salaries, and can say without fear of contradiction that the churches who are not paying the preacher a decent wage are not progressing, either in finance or winning souls for Christ. The cost of living is increasing, and we find it hard to get all the things we would like to have (so we cut our church offerings down). Brethren, face up to it, and give your preacher £5 a week and a manse, and the Lord's work will be extended and you will have no need to worry about finance. The church where I am a member has proved this.—E. Smith, 8 Wise-st., Maroubra, N.S.W. (secretary Kingsford church).

Obituary

Mrs. Jessie Brown Prior

IN the home of her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Park, of Hobart, Tas., Mrs. Jessie Brown Prior passed peacefully away on Aug. 24. Mrs. Prior was one of the pioneers of the brotherhood. Born in Geelong, Vic., of pioneer parents, she became a member of the Swanston-st. church at the age of 14 years. This was at the time Swanston-st. was meeting in the Manchester Unity Hall. For 23 years she was a member in Victoria, then four years at Launceston, and for the past 40 years she has been a faithful member of Collins-st., Hobart. At the age of 93 years she entered into rest, after a life of quiet and unobtrusive service. A record offering of £152 was given to reduce building debt. New scholars for Mulwala and Yarrowonga are reported in State increase campaign. 32/- has been given towards mission to aborigines.

Caulfield (Bambra-rd.).—There were good attendances on thanksgiving day, Sept. 12, when H. M. Clipstone addressed both services. Special offering has exceeded £50. On Sept. 19 Hector Campbell gave a message to K.S.P. at gospel service, when there was a large attendance of young people from all auxiliaries. Miss Elva Organ was soloist. Concert in aid of Guest Home on Sept. 11 was a marked success. Church rejoices in restoration of Mrs. Nash, sen., after long illness. P. Sampson, A.M.F., was presented with a wallet, and tribute was paid to his fine work in church and Bible school.

Here and There

We ask readers to keep in mind the annual offering for the college on October 3.

Chaplain-General Allen Brooke conducted the 60th anniversary services on Sept. 19 for the Ann-st. church, Brisbane. Our brother is on a tour of camps in northern areas.

T. P. Dale, secretary of the N.S.W. Social Service Department, conferred with members of social service committees in Adelaide and Melbourne, while on a business trip to South Australia.

Some fresh facts about the increase of literacy in India are shown by the census of 1941. The proportion of literates is now 12 per cent. against under 7 per cent. in 1931, and under 4 per cent. fifty years ago.

Miss R. Robin, secretary of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Inc., calls attention to the need of observing "Animal Sunday" on October 3. Literature may be secured on application at the R.S.P.C.A. office, 22 Grenfell-st., Adelaide.

It is hoped that the debt on the Federal College will be removed this year. Due to the need of carrying on the work in anticipation of the offering, the debt had grown to £2050 this month. A determined effort by the whole brotherhood on Oct. 3 will enable the aim to be reached.

On the national programme, the Broadcasting Commission is continuing to present talks on the nature and purpose of life. On Sunday, Sept. 26, at 10 p.m., Prof. Boyce Gibson is to speak on "Is there any power behind goodness?" Dr. R. C. Johnson's talk, for October 3, at same time, is on the question: "How can I get help from beyond myself?"

Miss Joan Saunders, in a letter acknowledging the receipt of "The Australian Christian," reports on the progress of the work among the aborigines at Norseman, W.A., and tells how children are being brought under Christian influence. We know that brethren throughout Australia are interested in the work of Miss Saunders and Miss Roxburgh.

Following the news that their Majesties, the king and queen, have graciously consented to become patrons of the British and Foreign Bible Society, it will interest our readers to know that His Excellency, Lord Gowrie, the Governor-General, has consented to become patron of the Commonwealth Council of the British and Foreign Bible Society in Australia.

J. B. Priestley, in his broadcast talk on July 5, over B.B.C., said, "The world expects great things of us. So, for heaven's sake, don't let us go all little and silly again. This is no time to suggest we are going to return to the dog fight and the monkey house. And when the lights go up in London—and I'd like to see them blazing like a beacon—let it be a beacon of peace and justice." *—The Australian Christian*

It is God's revelation of his eternal, unchanging and infinite love; his unerring wisdom; his unlimited power; his absolute holiness; his universal supremacy.

It is God's love-letter to his children; his messenger of hope to the despondent; of pardon to the guilty; of promise to the believer.

It is so simple that he may run who reads; the illiterate can find in it the way of life. It is so deep that the most scholarly cannot exhaust its teaching nor plumb its depths.

Its composition is the outcome of many minds, in many ages, under varied circumstances. It was written by learned men and shepherds, by herdsmen and fishermen, by kings and prophets, by priests and a publican, by singers and a doctor. In spite of its variety it is a harmonious whole. The Old Testament throws light upon the New, and the New confirms the witness of the Old.

much more on tobacco than on education. We spend three times more on liquor, for which the Australian people found £40,000,000 last year. What is spent on gambling is largely a matter for conjecture, but the figures available suggest that it may approach the other two sums put together."

"The Swiss newspaper 'Berner Tagwacht' recently published a letter it had received from a Dutch theologian. The contents were released in New York through the Office of War Information, and have just reached Australia. The letter runs as follows: 'You cannot imagine how much families suffer. The church, or rather, the churches, are growing wonderfully as a result of the difficulties besetting us. The younger generation is growing up to manhood in such a way as we never have thought possible. They often show magnificent faithfulness to the Bible. About 50 ministers of our church are still imprisoned. Others lead a very uncertain life. Nothing is being written or published. Foreign books cannot be obtained.'

The Council of Churches in Victoria appeals to civil authorities to forbid the employment of gambling devices in the streets in connection with patriotic and charitable efforts; and to sponsors of these efforts, to refrain from the use of these devices. We base our appeal on the facts—(1) That at this time, when the most earnest effort is demanded of all right-thinking people to raise the lowered moral tone of the community, and to train youth in principles of honesty, the use of these devices gives strong encouragement to the demoralising vice of gambling. (2) That this encouragement thus given to youth to regard this vice as virtue when related to charity, while at the same time it is condemned and punished as a major crime when practised in some

other forms, savors of hypocrisy and breeds contempt for both moral and civil law. (3) That offensive obstructing and littering of streets (both punishable offences) are thus caused. These offences are winked at while prosecutions are threatened for the inadvertent dropping of a tram ticket in the street.

Mutual Fund at Brighton, Vic.

IN September, 1936, J. Charlesworth put into operation a scheme of using the savings of the church people to cut down the interest charges on the church debt.

This scheme was called a Mutual Fund, and worked along the principle of a Savings Bank, bearing interest at 2½ per cent.

When this fund had grown sufficiently, it was used to liquidate the debt on the church, bearing interest at 4½ per cent.

The growth of the fund has been as follows: Balance, July 1, 1937, £1072/14/6; 1940, £2769/6/11; 1943, £3749/8/2.

The fund averaged £3195 during the last financial year on which £74/9/2 interest was paid. The refund of interest by members amounted to £56/15/2, leaving the nett amount paid to depositors, £17/14/-.

To borrow £3195 at 4½ per cent. would have cost £143/15/6. Actually, less the actual cost of £17/14/-, a saving of £126/1/6 for one year was made, and add that to total savings of previous years, £354/7/11, and it gives a total saving of £480/9/5.

Naturally, we are very pleased with the result of our Mutual Fund; for besides being able to pay off our building debt, it has enabled us to purchase a manse at a cost of £1100.

We pass these figures on to the churches, feeling that a scheme such as we have could be of benefit to others, helping them to meet their debts independent of outside financial assistance, with a considerable saving in interest charges.—C. W. Emmett.

From Week to Week

DURING the past week I enjoyed the fellowship of the brethren in South Australia. The city of Adelaide was a picture, for the spring flowers and bright sunshine set it off at its best. In normal times the annual show of the agriculture society is held in September. It is a convenient and delightful period in which to call the annual conference of churches of Christ. Baptist and Congregational churches also held conferences last week. That provided an opportunity for representatives of each group to exchange greetings in person to the various conference gatherings.

The preachers had held their annual retreat in the few days immediately preceding the conference gatherings. They had been busy discussing fundamental principles of the Restoration Movement, and were eager to continue their deliberations in the preachers' session on Saturday, Sept. 11. It was soon made evident that the South Australian preachers are aware of the need of capturing a new enthusiasm for evangelism.

THE public meetings held in the city "Town Hall" were very well attended. At the conference sermon session on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 12, about 1200 persons were present; while on Sept. 14, 1400 gathered to enjoy the fine programme arranged by the Young People's Department. Other meetings were also well attended, and conference rallies were, on the whole, better supported than last year. One pleasing feature was the desire to undertake some progressive campaign to mark the centenary of the planting of the Restoration movement in Australia, to be celebrated in 1966. It is to be hoped that all States will

join in fitting celebrations to commemorate that anniversary.

DURING my stay in Adelaide I had the privilege of visiting Mrs. T. J. Gore, who has just had her 93rd birthday. Mrs. Gore is a daughter of Philip Santo, one of the very early pioneers of South Australian churches. It will be recalled by those who have read the history of churches of Christ in Australia that T. J. Gore came from America with G. L. Surber in 1867. Mr. Surber remained in Melbourne for a few years and then returned to his homeland, but Mr. Gore went to Adelaide and made it the centre of his life's work. Not only did he help to develop the Grote-st. church, but performed a valued teaching ministry by means of which he exerted an influence upon many young men who became helpers and preachers in the kingdom of God. Each preacher ought to aim at gathering a few young men into groups for training in the various duties of the church. When this service is done well it proves to be one of the most fruitful contributions towards the development of the church.

IT is encouraging to share in the fellowship of brethren in all parts of Australia. I learned to appreciate the joys that accompany membership in a great brotherhood. Kind hospitality was provided by people I had not known in person. In a few minutes any feeling of strangeness was lost in the experiences that hold Christian brethren in the bonds of love. The president of the Federal conference, C. Schwab, summed up my feelings by saying, "It is a great brotherhood to which we belong."

News of the Churches

South Australia

Edwardstown West.—The church was saddened because of the sudden death of Mrs. Daley—the first loss by death. Mrs. Daley and her daughter were immersed by Mr. Pike last year, and sympathies are with the latter and her family. On conference Sunday Mr. Johnson, of Berri, exhorted and Mr. Pike preached the gospel to a good meeting.

CITY MISSION

VICTORIAN PREACHER COMMENCES CAMPAIGN

DELAIDE (Grote-st.)—On Sept. 12 J. E. Shipway, field evangelist, addressed the church, and in evening J. E. Brooke preached. Both addresses were appreciated. K. A. Macnaughtan arrived from Geelong on Sept. 18. A prayer meeting was held in evening, and the church looks forward to a time of blessing during the special effort. Mr. Macnaughtan spoke morning and evening on Sept. 19 to good congregations.

Flinders Park.—The special services were concluded on Aug. 29, when S. Matthews spoke morning and evening to fine congregations. C.E. choir assisted in evening service, with Dorothy Matthews soloist. Sympathy is extended to A. Pearce in his accident at work. On Aug. 12 A. Shire gave the exhortation and S. Matthews preached at night. Bible school is practising for anniversary.

Prospect.—C. Schwab exhorted the church on morning of Sept. 12, and fellowship with visitors was enjoyed. Evening service took the form of a memorial to Flight-Sgt. Newton (Boy), Fuss, who was killed in an air crash in England. C. Schwab spoke on the excellent Christian life of Newton. The choir rendered special anthems. Combined K.S.P. and P.B.P. chapters held a church parade. Midweek prayer meetings are well attended and a good spirit prevails.

Cottonville.—Thanks are extended to M. Drayton (Owen), and T. Edwards for filling pulpit on Sunday following conclusion of Mr. Manning's ministry, and to W. Johnston (Unley) and Cliff Butler on Sept. 5. All gave inspiring addresses. During past weeks fellowship has been enjoyed with Mr. and Mrs. B. Coventry. Both are from this church, and prayers and best wishes go with them when they take up their work overseas. On Sept. 12 Mr. Coventry conducted gospel service, which was very well attended. G. Berry spoke at morning service. Cliff. Manning has been mentioned in despatches in the Middle East for gallantry and meritorious duty. J. E. Brooke commences his ministry on Oct. 3.

Unley.—At a meeting on July 25 G. T. Fitzgerald gave an outline of working plan for the mission. Mrs. T. J. Gore has reached her 93rd birthday. Miss Ella Gore is seriously ill. Members are cleaning up church grounds on Saturday afternoons. Preachers have had a two-days' retreat. On the day spent at Unley (Sept. 9), the Ladies' Guild entertained them at lunch. Max Williams is home on leave, and was married to Gwen Reilly on Sept. 8. Lindsay Bowes and Len Jessup have both been in military hospital. Mr. Morphet's resignation as an elder has been received with regret. On Sept. 5 Mr. Nankivell made sympathetic reference to the passing of Mrs. H. H. Strutton (formerly Miss Eva Walden), who left Unley church two years' ago for India.

Western Australia

Kalgoorlie.—Church anniversary was celebrated with a week of special services. Mr. Fitch delivered messages appropriate for each auxiliary, the diaconate, and the church generally. Albany Bell exhorted the church on Aug. 28 and Fred. Stephenson spoke on Sept. 5. Sisters Misser, Margaret Dawson and Elsie Cosgrove and Don Tonkin have been baptised. St. John's Ambulance Brigade paraded at gospel service on Sept. 5.

Perth.—On morning of Sept. 12 53rd anniversary celebrations began. In a helpful talk Mr. Robinson mentioned notable successes achieved by the church in past years. At the close Mrs. Robinson, on behalf of the sisters, handed a beautiful bouquet of flowers to Miss Dyer, who had reached her 94th birthday. At 5.30 p.m. the young people had an enjoyable tea and social hour. Gospel meeting was broadcast. E. R. Berry rendered a solo and J. K. Robinson preached.

Tasmania

West Hobart.—Speakers over past two Sundays have been B. J. Golder, H. England and J. Park. On Sept. 8 the midweek meeting took the form of the annual church business meeting. Plans for future work were discussed. J. C. Woolley resigned as church secretary after seventeen years of service in that position; G. E. Ashlin is the newly-elected secretary. Sept. 12 was observed as Temperance Sunday. J. Park, president of Temperance Alliance, gave the evening address. Bible school scholars also gave a temperance demonstration during the service.

Launceston (Margaret-st.)—On Sept. 3 a "round the fireside" social was held to mark completion of a new fireplace in school hall which will prove a boon during winter months. It being the day set aside at the King's request for prayer, the gathering commenced with a devotional and prayer session led by S. H. Wilson. The large number present contributed a substantial amount towards cost of fireplace. Meetings were well attended over past two weeks. After a splendid evening address by Mr. Wilson on Sept. 5 Basil Turner made the good confession. Mrs. Wells and Mr. Dewsbury are in hospital, but improving.

Queensland

Charters Towers.—Attendances during past few weeks have been maintained and encouraging. The message given by Mr. Miller on Sept. 12 was very interesting. The church welcomed some members who have been absent from the town. Fellowship was enjoyed with members of Australian Forces. The visitors included Alan Verco, Fremantle, W.A.

Victoria

Bayswater.—Mr. Burns gave special addresses on Bible Sunday. He commenced his fifth year of ministry with the church on Sept. 12. Sunday school has started anniversary practice under leadership of T. Legg, of Montrose.

Parkdale.—R. Sparks, conference president, spoke at morning service on Sept. 19. H. E. Granger delivered gospel address. During Sunday, Sept. 12, 91 broke bread. The choir, under W. Fielder, sang helpfully at evening service.

East Kew.—On Sept. 12 Mr. Candy addressed both meetings, his messages being appreciated. Special prayer was made for the nation. On Sept. 19 Mr. Patterson gave an encouraging message in morning and Mr. Candy preached at night.

Castlemaine.—A successful Children's Day service was held on Sept. 19. Fellowship has been enjoyed with visitors. Attendance at evening services is improving. C. E. Curtis has recovered from an attack of influenza.

Malvern-Caulfield.—Morning and evening attendances on Sept. 19 were good. F. E. Buckingham spoke at both services. A special anthem was rendered by the choir, and a bright song service was held. Many visitors were welcomed.

Cheltenham.—Bible school reports best attendance since typhoid epidemic: 23 new scholars and 6 teachers are reported to date in increase campaign. Preparations are in hand for special gospel meetings during October and November. Fellowship was enjoyed with visitors on Sept. 19.

Preston.—Mr. Combridge commenced the second year of his ministry on Sept. 19 with good attendances. At morning service he gave a review of past year's work. A concert was given by P.B.P. Club on Sept. 18, proceeds being donated to Dhond Hospital. A large audience was present.

West Preston.—Great interest is displayed in all branches of the work, and there are splendid attendances at all services. One has been received by letter of transfer. Mr. Withers preaches with help and inspiration to all. Special addresses at gospel meetings are much appreciated. New scholars continue to be added to Bible school.

Balwyn.—Sunday school anniversary services were very well attended on Sept. 12 and 19. F. Broussard, newly-elected superintendent, presided at all meetings. W. Dimond rendered excellent service in training choir of 150 voices. Very good addresses were given by D. C. Ritchie, R. Muller, W. G. Graham and H. J. Patterson, and the church appreciated a helpful message from A. W. Candy.

Hampton.—A young people's social was held on Sept. 18. Bible school anniversary services began on 19th. C. G. Taylor spoke morning and evening. Under leadership of J. Machin, and assisted by instrumentalists, the school sang excellently. In afternoon J. I. Mudford gave the talk. Kindergarten and primary classes sang, and prizes were distributed to them. D. Allen, superintendent, presided, and reported a progressive year's work.

RECORD OFFERING

BUILDING DEBT REDUCED BY £152

YARRAWONGA.—Mr. Hibbert was speaker for church anniversary on Sept. 5, when fellowship was enjoyed with isolated members and visitors. Mr. Hibbert's messages at all services, including the S.S., were deeply appreciated. He spoke again at fellowship tea on Tuesday. Opportunity was taken to make a presentation to Mrs. Norman New (nee Irene Christy), who was recently married. The record offering of £152 was given to reduce building debt. New scholars for Mulwala and Yarrawonga are reported in State increase campaign. 32/- has been given towards mission to aborigines.

Caulfield (Bambra-rd.)—There were good attendances on thanksgiving day, Sept. 12, when H. M. Clipstone addressed both services. Special offering has exceeded £50. On Sept. 19 Hector Campbell gave a message to K.S.P. at gospel service, when there was a large attendance of young people from all auxiliaries. Miss Elva Organ was soloist. Concert in aid of Guest Home on Sept. 11 was a marked success. Church rejoices in restoration of Mrs. Nash, sen., after long illness. P. Sampson, A.M.F., was presented with a wallet, and tribute was paid to his fine work in church and Bible school.

Oakleigh.—Women's Mission Band afternoon for Indian Christmas box was addressed by Mrs. Waterman. S. Neighbour, with W. J. Williams, of Oakleigh Methodist church, represented Victoria at Australasian Council of Churches meeting in Sydney on Sept. 17. On Sept. 19, W. H. Clay and F. T. Saunders spoke at services. Bible school attendance was 145. Each Sunday, Mr. Coates brings 15 scholars from Glen-Waverley to Bible school.



EXAMINATION RESULTS

SCHOOL GAINS FEDERAL AND TWO STATE PRIZES

BRUNSWICK.—The preaching of T. Westwood is appreciated, and meetings are good. David Hibbert won a Federal and State award in Bible school examinations. In State examinations a second prize went to Hazel Elderfield and several certificates to others in the school. Mr. H. Anderson and Miss Grace Hill were married on Sept. 11. A presentation was made to them the previous Saturday. Bible school had a week's mission with Messrs. White and Roberts. Sister Edhouse is still very low. Mr. Prentice, of the College of the Bible, is to start a ministry with the church at close of college year.

Ormond.—On Sept. 12 C. L. Lang gave helpful addresses. R. Lang sang a solo at night. On Sept. 19 Mr. Lang gave a good address in morning. At Bible school anniversary service in afternoon the children sang beautifully under baton of C. L. Lang, and L. Brooker gave an illustrated address. At gospel service the children again sang and R. P. Morris gave an illustrated address. The building was filled. A number of old members came back for anniversary.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—On Sept. 19 R. T. Pittman was morning speaker in interests of the college. T. H. Scambler addressed Bible class and preached at night. Horace Faulls and Connie Harrison were married in the chapel on Sept. 18. At a social recently held by Endeavorers they were recipients of a gift to mark the occasion. Sympathy is extended to parents and loved ones in the death of Flying Sgt. Frank Holdsworth as the result of air operations over England.

Collingwood.—Bible school anniversary was continued on Sept. 12, with large gatherings. In morning a delightful address was brought by R. Bethune. In afternoon J. White gave an illustrated address to children. In evening an appreciated message was given by G. J. Andrews, of Surrey Hills. Teachers entertained scholars and visitors at tea. A tribute is paid to Mr. Hopkins, whose work as conductor of orchestra and singing helped to make the anniversary outstandingly successful.

Wangaratta.—Bible schools at Wangaratta and South Wangaratta are practising for anniversary under leadership of R. Lloyd and Mrs. Scott Brown. New scholars have been gained since the campaign. Physical culture club is popular among the boys. Y.P.C.E. has gained three new members. Mr. Lloyd continues to give inspirational messages. On Sept. 15 the church enjoyed a visit from T. Hagger, who gave an inspiring address. Baptist C.E. Society joined in the meeting. The Bible school at South Wangaratta held a Children's Day service, and £3 has been contributed to F.M. Committee.

Prahran.—Services have improved in numbers, Chap. Chas. Young delivering uplifting messages. Mr. Sansom, superintendent of Bible school, upon his return from visiting a number of other schools, was presented with books as a token of esteem from the teaching staff at a delightful tea after Bible school. The

church has enjoyed fellowship of Mr. and Mrs. Holyoake, from Wollongong, N.S.W. Offering for B. and F. Bible Society was nearly £7. Practice for Bible school anniversary is well under way under baton of Mr. Machin. With regret the prolonged illness of Mrs. Cooper and Mrs. Ward is reported.

Black Rock.—The marriage of Miss Ida Moore to Mr. V. Driscoll was celebrated at the chapel on Aug. 28, Mr. Webb officiating. Ladies' Guild took charge of C.E. meeting on Aug. 30. Fellowship in these meetings is enjoyed. C.E. Society held a social on Sept. 4. A collection was taken to provide boxes for boys on service. Sunday's services on Sept. 5 were heartening, with excellent attendances. Mr. Wallington addressed the church and Mr. Sercombe preached at night. Bob Sercombe was welcomed home on return from active service. Bible school and kindergarten work is very satisfactory.

North Essendon.—C. G. Taylor, from Hampton, gave a delightful message on morning of Aug. 29. East Kew flying squad had charge of gospel meeting, F. Cambridge interesting all with his message. Fellowship was enjoyed with Les Walshe, on leave from New Guinea, and Keith Smyth, on leave from the Navy. On Sept. 5 E. T. Hart gave splendid messages, and brought greetings from Hampton church and appreciation of their members in having him with them as one of the college mission team. The conference of Essendon, Ascot Vale, Newmarket and North Essendon churches was held in chapel on Sept. 4. Splendid addresses were given by T. Hagger in afternoon and by W. Graham in evening. There were good attendances on Sept. 12, when Stan Fordham, of Moreland, presided, and E. T. Hart prepared the members for a special month of services to be held in October.

New South Wales

Inverell.—All candidates for scripture examinations passed with honors. Mrs. Woodbury is in attendance at services after long illness. Mr. Burgin continues to preach messages that win the commendation of all members. Mr. Newman and Mr. Squires, both members of A.I.F., have recently been home on leave and have had fellowship with the church.



RAPID INCREASES

60 DECISIONS IN SIX MONTHS: GROWING SCHOOL

CANTERBURY-EARLWOOD.—At anniversary services of church on Sept. 11 and 12 the chapel was crowded, and there were three decisions. E. C. Hinrichsen commenced his ministry in February. There have been over 60 decisions in last six months. Visitation of the whole district has been carried out. "Earlwood Echoes," a monthly church paper, has been printed and distributed throughout the district. All auxiliaries are flourishing. Bible school has membership of 239, with increase campaign in progress. Women's Fellowship is doing good work. Midweek prayer meetings have doubled. Young people's C.E. has grown from 6 to over 40, junior to 35. Plans are being started for erecting a school hall and enlarging the building. Mr. Hinrichsen is leaving at the end of this month, but will be with the church again later on.

ADDRESSES

G. Ellerton Ashlin (secretary West Hobart church, Tas.).—61 Mt. Stuart-rd., Hobart.

J. H. Kennett (secretary Castlemaine church, Vic.).—297 Barker-st., Castlemaine.

Have You Read?

"Dynamite in Europe," by Eva Stuart Watt. Four months of travel just before the war. 8/3 (8/6½).

"How Firm a Foundation," by C. F. Juritz. Lectures on the Evidences of Christianity. 6/6 (6/10½).

"The Holy Spirit of Promise," by J. Oswald Sanders. Shows how the Holy Spirit works in the lives of those surrendered to him. 4/3 (4/6½).

KESWICK BOOK DEPOT

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IN MEMORIAM

BROWN.—In fond remembrance of my father and our grandfather, Alfred, who passed away on Sept. 21, 1932.

"Though lost to sight, to memory dear."
—Inserted by loving daughter Mabel, son-in-law Bert, and grandchildren Lewis and Irene Norton, of Parwan, Vic.

CLARK.—In loving memory of my dear husband Charles, who fell asleep in Jesus at Port Fairy on Sept. 19, 1940. In God's own time we will meet again.

—Inserted by his loving wife.

JOHNSON.—In loving memory of my dear daughter and sister Florrie, who was called home on Sept. 21, 1922.

"Until we meet again before his throne,
Clothed in the spotless robe he gives his own,

Until we know even as we are known—
Good-night."

—Inserted by her loving mother, brother and sister.

PHILLIPS.—In loving memory of our dear father, who was called to higher service on Sept. 22, 1942; also our dear mother, who was called home on Feb. 3, 1937.

"Until the day dawn, and the shadows flee away."

—Inserted by their loving daughters.

BROADCAST SERVICES

The Tasmanian Bible School and Young People's Department has arranged a weekly broadcast session commencing from Sunday, Sept. 26, from station 7EX, at 5.15 p.m., in connection with the Bible school State increase campaign. Margaret-st. S.S. choir will be featured.

COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 26.—North Essendon church of Christ, Berry-st. Bible school anniversary, Sunday, Sept. 26. 3 p.m., W. Graham; 7 p.m., E. T. Hart.

OCTOBER 1.—Swanston-st., 2 p.m., Victorian Women's Conference Executive will meet. Leader of devotions, Mrs. L. Crisp. Speaker, Mr. J. Wright.

FAIRFIELD BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

SEPTEMBER 26—

3 p.m., Mr. C. Candy.

7 p.m., Mr. T. Turriff.

A welcome to all old members and friends.

EVANGELISTIC MISSION.

UNLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST, S.A.

Leaders:—G. T. Fitzgerald, K. Jones, D. G. Pike.

Meetings each evening except Friday and Saturdays from SEPTEMBER 26—OCTOBER 10.

Your prayers and attendance are invited.

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NEW CENTURY-BIBLE CLASS.**

Every Sunday at 3 p.m.

Sept. 26—"A Scripture Idyll."

—Principal T. H. Scambler.

Bright programme. Happy fellowship.

SEPTEMBER 26.

MALVERN-CAULFIELD S.S. ANNIVERSARY

11 a.m., W. H. Clay; 3 p.m., D. C. Ritchie;

7 p.m., F. E. Buckingham.

OCTOBER 3,

Anniversary continued, commencement of the White and Roberts Children's Mission.

MISSIONARY FAREWELL MEETING

LYGON STREET CHAPEL

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, at 8 p.m.

Brotherhood Farewell to

Mr. and Mrs. Colin G. V. Thomas and

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce V. Coventry,

missionaries for India.

Chairman: Mr. J. E. Thomas.

Representative Speakers.

Responses by Missionaries.

Music by Swanston-st. Choir.

FILL THE CHAPEL.

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3rd, Dr. W. H. Hinrichsen.

10th, Mr. S. Russell Baker.

17th, Mr. H. Swain.

24th, Mr. A. G. McCullough.

31st, Mr. A. L. Gibson.

Wednesdays at 8 p.m.

6th, Mr. J. E. Thomas.

13th, Mr. S. Russell Baker.

20th, Principal T. H. Scambler.

27th, Mr. F. E. Buckingham.

SOUTH RICHMOND, BALMAIN STREET.

BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

OCTOBER 3—

11 a.m., R. Geyer. 3 p.m., R. Muller.

7 p.m., B. Huntsman.

Bright singing. All welcome.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, DANDENONG.

OCTOBER 3.

Church Jubilee and Commencement of Hinrichsen-Morris Mission.

Would past members who intend to spend the day, please get in touch with the secretary, H. A. Williams, 78 Langhorne-st., Dandenong, so that catering can be arranged?

PARKDALE Y.W.L. ANNIVERSARY,

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3.

11 a.m., Les. Brooker, "Flying Safe." An illustrated address.

7 p.m., A. W. Stephenson, M.A.

A very sincere welcome awaits all who can spend this day of happy fellowship with us.

BAMBRA ROAD CHURCH.

OCTOBER 3 to OCTOBER 10.

Special Meetings.

Every Night Except Saturday.

Preacher, Mr. E. L. Williams, M.A.

Oct. 3, 11 a.m.—Principal T. H. Scambler,

B.A., Dip.Ed.

Oct. 10, 11 a.m.—Mr. J. McGregor Abercrombie.

SOUTH YARRA SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3—

3 p.m., Mr. D. C. Ritchie.

7 p.m., Mr. Hector Campbell.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10—

3 p.m., Mr. J. W. Wright.

7 p.m., Mr. Charles Cole.

Song leader, Mr. A. Reed.

CARNEGIE BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY

Oct. 3.—3 p.m., Mr. Knight.

7 p.m., Mr. Will Smith.

Oct. 10.—3 p.m., Mr. W. E. Quirk.

7 p.m., Mr. L. E. Snow.

Old members and friends, come and spend a happy day at Carnegie.

**NORTH FITZROY CHURCH OF CHRIST.
(St. George's Road.)**

70TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3.

Speakers:

11 a.m., Chaplain-General Allen Brooke.

3 p.m., Major P. M. Blenkinsop, Base Chaplain U.S.A. Army).

Soloist, Miss Dorothy Humphreys.

7 p.m., Mr. Reg. Enniss.

Soloist, Mrs. Walter Finger.

A memorial to the late J.-W. Baker will be unveiled at the afternoon service.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5.

6.30 p.m.—Church Anniversary Dinner.

7.45 p.m.—Great Thanksgiving Service. Representative speakers.

Wanderers Male Quartette Party.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10.

Speakers:

11 a.m., Mr. A. L. Gibson.

3 p.m., Mr. Maurice Blackburn.

7 p.m., Mr. A. A. Hughes.

Soloist, Miss Amelia Scarce.

Dinner and tea will be provided on October 3. To assist the catering arrangements will all past members intending to spend the day kindly communicate with L. Gole, 145 Marshall-st., Ivanhoe?

BALWYN CHURCH OF CHRIST.

21st ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.

Oct. 3.—11 a.m., Dr. W. A. Kemp (College offering.)

7 p.m., H. J. Patterson; soloist, Amelia Scarce.

Oct. 6.—8 p.m., Dr. C. I. McLaren, returned missionary from Korea, "Preface to Peace with Japan."

THE ANNIVERSARY DAY.

Oct. 10.—11 a.m., J. E. Thomas.

Debt Extinction offering. £500 wanted.

3.30 p.m., J. E. Thomas. (Reminiscences.)

5.15 p.m., Fellowship Tea. Messages from our boys.

7 p.m., Dr. W. H. Hinrichsen.

Soloist, Miss Francis Cowper.

Oct. 13.—8 p.m., Chaplain-General Allen Brooke, "The Church and the Crisis."

All former members welcomed.

ANNUAL PRIZE-GIVING DEMONSTRATION

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**LYGON STREET, CARLTON.
BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.**

OCTOBER 10—

3 p.m., Mr. A. E. White.

7 p.m., Mr. T. H. Scambler.

OCTOBER 17—

7 p.m., Mr. R. P. Morris.

Come and enjoy a happy period of music and song.

HAWTHORN CHURCH.

70th ANNIVERSARY AND HOME-COMING DAY,

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17.

11 a.m., E. L. Williams, M.A.

3 p.m., Back to Sunday School Reunion.

W. R. Hobbart.

7 p.m., T. H. Scambler, B.A., Dip.Ed.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 8 p.m.,

Reunion Social.

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Reinforcements for India



**Mr. and Mrs.
Colin G. V.
Thomas.**

Mr. Thomas, who is returning to India for a second term, will be accompanied by Mrs. Thomas and their two children.



**Mr. and Mrs.
Bruce V.
Coventry,**

Missionaries-elect for India. They plan to leave with Mr. and Mrs. C. G. V. Thomas. Their going forward fulfils plans the Board have had in mind to reinforce the field with young workers.



EVA WALDEN STRUTTON

WITH dramatic suddenness we learned of the passing of one known to a large circle of friends in Australia as Eva Walden, on Sept. 1, at Dhond, India. We knew her health had caused concern, but were cheered by later messages that she was feeling well again. More recently Mrs. Strutton came to Dhond with her husband to pass the monsoon season, and it was here, surrounded by many old friends, that she was called from this life. All her life she had dreamed, planned and worked in the interests of our overseas work, and when two years ago the call came for her to go to India she was ready. She responded to the call, God used her for this short period, and she had the desire of her heart—to go to the field itself. To H. H. Strutton, the pioneer missionary (1905) in "Our India," we tender heart-felt sympathy and Christian feeling in his sad loss. As the following was written by Mrs. Strutton, and is the last message received by the Board, it will be of double interest to her many friends.

Annual Meetings, India

I have been asked to write a little paragraph for the "Christian" of my personal impressions of the annual mission conference at Baramati from July 14 to 19. When I wrote my sisters that I felt I needed to take three weeks off and fill three writing pads before I told all I would like to about the conference, it is hard to condense it into a small paragraph. It was the first one I was privileged to attend, so you can imagine how I enjoyed every minute of it. You will see from the minutes and learn from the missionaries all about the different meetings, addresses, business, etc., so I will try and give you some of the little homely touches which they will probably not have time

to mention. We were just like a big happy family. For father's sake they have all been very kind to me; and as most of them have at least visited our home, if not stayed with us, we are old friends, and I hadn't seen most of them for nearly a year, so you can imagine the happy gatherings of eighteen of us, counting Dr. Rambo, Mr. Newton (his Indian pastor), Mr. Bairagi, Miss Swain, of the Poona and Indian Village Mission, and Miss Barkla, of the Z.N.B. Mission, Sholapur, who gathered in the Magarey Bungalow for the two main meals of each day. Mr. and Mrs. Woodward joined us the last couple of nights. Miss Vawser, Miss Caldicott and Mrs. Coventry entertained us beautifully. After the evening meal, we had family worship followed by sing-song till about 10.30 p.m. The main addresses by Dr. Rambo, also those by Mr. Bairagi and the daily devo-

tional addresses, were all very fine. I felt I didn't want to miss five minutes of the meetings. I was very interested to learn that Dr. Rambo and his family had stayed in Miss Mary Thompson's home at Harda for some weeks, and they were very fond of her. He was also interested to hear of the time I was privileged to spend with her during the last few months of her life.—Eva Walden Strutton.

H. H. Strutton

In a note enclosed with that of his late wife, Mr. Strutton writes: "We have been very pleased indeed to attend the annual meetings of the mission at Baramati, and it was a time of blessing to all those who, like ourselves, came from parts where such meetings were, or are, hard to come by. The work here also is good to see, and we hope there will be extensions in every way that is possible in and around Dhond."

This department is conducted by A. Anderson, secretary of our Overseas Mission Board, 261 Magill-st., Tranmere, South Australia.

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

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Work in Whyalla

J. E. Shipway

I HAVE just spent six very happy weeks with the church in Whyalla, S.A. Whyalla is still a city in the making, and while still in places the whole thing looks like a jig-saw puzzle, the town is now taking splendid shape. When one surmounts the principal hill, in the centre of the place, the splendid and wise town planning can be observed. In an article I read recently in a well-known magazine, it was stated that the company responsible for this town's growth hopes to have, ultimately, a city of 35,000 people.

The chapel we have erected is a beautiful building, easily the best of its kind in the part of the town where it stands, a fast-growing residential area. The builders and voluntary workers did a magnificent job, and the acoustic properties are perfect. The whole building cost only a little over £800, and there is only a little over £300 debt. The church is tackling the problem wonderfully well, and a building fund offering, taken each Sunday morning, is averaging about 17/6. The Sisters' Guild also has the matter in hand, and is helping very considerably. Because of ill-health I have not been able to help this church as much as I had anticipated. I am confident that a canvass of the locality for children, and a week of bright-hour services, would have strengthened the Sunday school greatly. My time, however, was given to much pastoral visitation, and I have never been received more kindly anywhere, both by members and non-members, than by the people of Whyalla. As a result of this, new faces appeared at the gospel services, members whose letters of transfer were received were given the hand of fellowship, and others residing in the town, but not attending, commenced coming to the services. The prayer service on the Wednesday evening is a delight, and is well attended. The church has a splendid band of officers who are all eager for development.

As I view the situation of this magnificent town, I am confident that a full-time preacher, with some church experience and above all a good pastor, is the immediate need of the church. There is need of a great amount of seeking out and following up to be done. When we secure the preacher it will be a great problem to find a house for him. However, at a meeting of the officers held recently, it was decided to do something regarding this matter, and initial plans are being put into operation. I feel certain that, after about twelve months of consecrated pastoral work and acquaintance with the people, a well-advertised tent mission on the church property, with an accredited missionary, would give us a strong church in this growing town. I must personally thank Mr. and Mrs. C. Brougham, Mr. and Mrs. G. Cox and Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson for kind hospitality given to me during my visit, and also the church in general for its splendid co-operation; and I pray for, and expect also, great things of this church in the future.

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(Rev. 2: 7; 3: 21)

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some of man's alleged conquests, the victors
are worse off than the vanquished; this is not
so with those who conquer through Christ.
Hear the thrilling repetition in the letters to
the seven churches: "To him that overcometh."
Or as Goodspeed has it, "Him who is victor-
ious!"

Never let us forget the sure rewards of
God, declared in many scriptures, and here
set forth in challenging symbols. To "eat
of the tree of life" is surely to taste of life's
richest possible meaning; to know its abiding
powers and satisfactions. While to be unhurt
of the "second death" is to be truly immortal.
Access to secret resources, and a pledge of
attaining our real character and destiny, may
be indicated by the "hidden manna," "the
new name," and the "white stone." Powers of
splendid rule and inspiring leadership are
meant by the gifts of "authority" and "the
morning star." While the "white garments"
the permanent enrolment, and the acknowl-
edgment before God must suggest one's prepara-
tion for and introduction at the courts of
heaven. An abiding ministry of stalwart de-
pendability is strikingly symbolised by the
inscribed "pillar" in the temple. While the
concluding promise assures of a wonderful par-
ticipation in Christ's kingly honors.—G. J.
Andrews.

THOUGHT

*I should never have made my suc-
cess in life, if I had not bestowed
upon the least thing I have ever un-
dertaken, the same attention and
care that I have bestowed upon the
greatest.*

—C. Dickens.

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