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## VICTORIAN CONFERENCE.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF FOREIGN MISSIONARY COMMITTEE OF S. AUSTRALIA.

Being Interim Report for nine months from July 1, 1900 to March 15, 1900.

#### RECEIPTS.

Balance from last year .. .. .	£9 5 7½
Received from churches:	
Alma .. .. .	2 19 0
Balaklava .. .. .	3 0 0
Broken Hill .. .. .	2 0 6
Carew .. .. .	1 2 0
Glenelg .. .. .	1 14 8
Grote St., Adelaide .. .. .	31 5 7
Hentley Beach .. .. .	2 2 6
Hindmarsh .. .. .	6 13 0
Lochiel .. .. .	0 10 3
Long Plain .. .. .	1 0 0
Mallala .. .. .	1 8 9
Milang .. .. .	1 0 0
Millicent .. .. .	0 10 0
North Adelaide .. .. .	16 18 3
Norwood .. .. .	10 11 0
Point Sturt .. .. .	2 12 0
Port Pirie .. .. .	2 9 6
Queenstown .. .. .	1 10 10
Stirling East .. .. .	4 13 6
Strathalbyn .. .. .	1 10 0
Unley .. .. .	10 10 0
Wild Horse Plain .. .. .	0 6 0
Williamstown .. .. .	2 6 0
Willunga .. .. .	0 8 0
York .. .. .	3 8 0
	£112 19 4

#### Received from Auxiliaries.

Grote St., Adelaide (for Yakub, India) ..	15 0 0
Grote St. young men for Indian Fund ..	5 0 0
Grote St. Y.P.S.C.E. (general) ..	3 0 0
	£23 0 0

#### Carried forward

£145 4 11½	
Received from Auxiliaries:	
Hindmarsh (for H. H. Strutton, India) ..	£30 0 0
Norwood (for Bhegona, India) ..	5 0 0
Norwood (general) ..	1 5 0
Norwood Womens Meeting ..	0 8 0
Norwood Dorcas ..	0 5 0
North Adelaide Worker's Meetings ..	2 0 6
Unley Sunday School ..	1 0 0
Williamstown ..	1 10 0
	£41 8 6

#### Received from Individuals:

Bro. and Sis. Geo. Smith, Unley (half support of a boy in India) ..	2 10 0
Thos. Hair ..	1 5 0
W. H. Rich ..	1 0 0
J. Greenshiels ..	1 0 0
Sis. Kemp, S.A. ..	1 0 0
Three Teal Flat Friends ..	0 7 6
Three Hindmarsh Friends ..	0 5 0
C. M. Gale ..	0 6 0
Bro. Marquardt ..	0 5 0
	£7 18 6

Sale of Miss Thompson's Photos .. 0 4 0

£194 15 11½

#### EXPENDITURE.

Remitted Federal F.M.C., Melbourne.	
Salary for Bhegona, India ..	£5 0 0
Salary for Yakub, India ..	15 0 0
Proportion F. E. Stubbin's Salary ..	25 0 0
Miss Pfrunder's Salary ..	25 0 0
Advanced for Passages of Misses Thompson and Pfrunder to India ..	40 0 0
	£110 0 0

Advances in South Australia.	
Miss Thompson's fare from Melbourne to Adelaide ..	2 5 0
H. H. Strutton's Salary, India ..	30 0 0
Periodicals from America ..	3 0 0
Freight of case of goods to India ..	1 9 0
Secretarial and other expenses ..	1 8 6
Postages and Exchanges ..	0 7 7
	£38 10 1

Balances in hand for various purposes	46 5 10½
	£194 15 11½

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF SOUTH AUSTRALIAN INDIAN FAMINE FUND.

Complete Report to March 15th, 1901.

#### RECEIPTS.

Amounts received at date of Victorian Conference of 1900 ..	£80 4 9
Received since from Churches ..	113 2 5
from Auxiliaries ..	2 0 0
from Schools ..	47 19 1½
from Schools ..	17 7 6
Given and collected by Individuals ..	26 9 3
	£287 3 0½

#### EXPENDITURE.

Forwarded to Treasurer of Victorian Indian Famine Fund, after date of Victorian Conference, 1900:	
By Draft ..	£25 19 0
" ..	34 0 5
" ..	20 5 4
" ..	51 8 0
" ..	91 6 0
" ..	22 13 9
" ..	37 3 5
Cost of Materials for garments sent with clothing to India ..	2 7 6
Postage and Exchanges ..	0 7 7
Balance in hand ..	1 12 0½
	£287 3 0½

### SOUTH AUSTRALIAN KANAKA FUND.

Interim Report for Nine Months: from July 1st, 1900, to March 15th, 1901.

#### RECEIPTS.

Balance last year ..	£0 12 9
Contributing Churches	
North Adelaide ..	23 16 9
Per N.A. Workers' Meetings ..	1 9 4
	£25 18 10

#### EXPENDITURE.

Sent to Federal Committee, Melbourne:	
Quota for J. Thompson ..	£25 0 0
Balance in hand ..	0 18 10
	£25 18 10

### CONTRIBUTIONS TO FOREIGN MISSION FUND.

#### NEW SOUTH WALES.

Churches and Individuals at—	
Bungawalbyn ..	£1 4 0
Chatam ..	8 11 9
Corowa ..	7 12 6
Collection at Conference ..	2 16 4
Enmore ..	34 8 9
June ..	2 0 0
Lismore ..	1 11 9
Marrickville ..	5 1 0
Merewether ..	2 2 6
Moree ..	1 0 0
Mungindi ..	1 1 0
Paddington ..	0 16 0
Petersham ..	6 0 8
Prospect ..	1 0 0
Rookwood ..	1 9 9
Sydney ..	27 2 5
Wagga ..	0 17 0
Woollahra ..	7 5 0
	112 0 5
Sundry ..	5 11 6
	£117 11 11

#### QUEENSLAND.

Churches and Individuals—	
Roma ..	£14 7 0
Bundamba ..	0 15 0
Vernor ..	2 7 7
Ma Ma Creek (including Mission Band) ..	6 17 6
Rosewood ..	13 16 0
Brisbane ..	4 2 0
Emu Creek ..	0 11 0
Greenmount ..	3 17 6
Mt. Whitestone ..	0 11 6
Eel Creek ..	2 10 0
Kanaka Mission—	
Childer ..	8 16 0
Boonah ..	0 15 0
Maryborough ..	7 10 0
Tannymorel ..	2 0 6
Marburg ..	1 0 0
Gympie ..	1 16 0
Gingerby ..	1 0 0
Rosevale ..	1 12 0
Mt. Walker ..	1 19 0
Thornton ..	0 15 6
Clifton ..	0 6 0
Sundry ..	3 12 0
	80 3 1
Grant for Kanaka Educational Work ..	45 0 11
	£125 4 0

#### NEW ZEALAND.

Churches and Individuals at—	
Port Albert ..	£1 18 0
Wellington ..	2 5 0
Mangawai ..	4 0 0
E. Oxford ..	0 5 0
Stanley Brook ..	2 1 0
Wayby ..	0 6 0
Tara ..	1 14 0
Papakura ..	3 10 0
Warkworth ..	3 15 0
Gisborne ..	1 0 0
Oamaru ..	5 9 0
Glorit ..	3 0 0
Wellsford ..	1 0 0
Ohautau ..	0 5 0
Mataura ..	5 1 3
Kaitangata ..	2 9 0
Opotiki ..	1 0 0
Invercargill ..	2 9 0
Auckland ..	5 18 2
Waimangorua ..	0 9 6
Nelson ..	1 1 6
Hoteo North ..	2 10 5

Turua ..	..	..	1 0 0
Kaituna ..	..	..	0 5 0
Pahiatua ..	..	..	2 2 2
Takaka ..	..	..	0 7 6
Mornington ..	..	..	1 0 0
Dunedin ..	..	..	14 4 9
Ross ..	..	..	1 0 0
South Wellington ..	..	..	6 2 0
Te Arai ..	..	..	0 13 0
Sundry ..	..	..	0 5 0

TASMANIA.

Churches and Individuals at—	..	..	£78 6 3
Kellevie ..	..	..	£4 15 6
Latrobe ..	..	..	0 5 0
Beaconsfield ..	..	..	1 0 0
Hobart ..	..	..	1 0 0
New Ground ..	..	..	3 3 0
Primrose Park ..	..	..	2 2 0
Impression Bay ..	..	..	1 0 0
Launceston ..	..	..	0 17 6

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Per Committee ..	..	..	£163 4 0
Port Wakefield ..	..	..	0 4 4
Carcw ..	..	..	1 1 9
Dalkey ..	..	..	1 7 6

VICTORIA

Churches and Individuals at—	..	..	£165 17 7
Ascot Vale ..	..	..	£2 7 10
Bairrsdale ..	..	..	0 16 6
Ballarat ..	..	..	3 19 3
Ballarat East ..	..	..	0 18 0
Bendigo ..	..	..	11 5 0
Bet Bet ..	..	..	3 3 0
Berwick ..	..	..	8 3 0
Brigh'on ..	..	..	9 6 6
Brim ..	..	..	4 12 3
Buninyong ..	..	..	0 10 0
Brunswick ..	..	..	1 18 6
Birchip ..	..	..	0 10 0
Bayswater ..	..	..	1 0 0
Border town (S.A.) ..	..	..	0 13 6
Barkers' Creek ..	..	..	3 13 6
Carlton (Lygon-street) ..	..	..	9 13 4
Carlton North ..	..	..	1 8 6
Collingwood ..	..	..	4 0 7
Cheltenham ..	..	..	6 0 0
Castlemaine ..	..	..	0 10 0
Cosgrove ..	..	..	1 0 0
Croydon ..	..	..	0 14 0
Colac ..	..	..	0 14 9
Dnmun kle ..	..	..	2 11 3
Doncaster ..	..	..	38 17 9
Dunolly ..	..	..	2 0 0
Dandenong ..	..	..	2 10 6
Drummond ..	..	..	3 0 0
Daylesford ..	..	..	1 0 0
Emerald ..	..	..	4 0 0
Echuca ..	..	..	1 14 0
Fitzroy Tabernacle ..	..	..	9 13 5
Fitzroy North ..	..	..	4 6 7
Fairfield Park ..	..	..	1 1 4
Footscray ..	..	..	3 0 0
Fernihurst ..	..	..	1 12 0
Galaquil ..	..	..	2 0 0
Hawthorn ..	..	..	9 9 0
Horsham ..	..	..	0 17 6
Hopetoun (Maidavale) ..	..	..	1 2 0
Kaniva ..	..	..	2 0 0
Kyabram ..	..	..	1 0 6
Kerang East ..	..	..	1 0 0
Lillimur ..	..	..	2 13 3
Melbourne (Swanston-street) ..	..	..	52 18 7
Melbourne North ..	..	..	4 0 0
Maryborough ..	..	..	1 3 6
Mount Clear ..	..	..	0 14 6
Mooroobark ..	..	..	0 17 0
Murtoa ..	..	..	0 5 0
Malvern and Mission Band ..	..	..	6 17 9
Minyip ..	..	..	0 16 8
Miepoll ..	..	..	0 13 0
Mystic Park ..	..	..	0 17 9
Murrumbeena ..	..	..	1 10 0
Merrigum ..	..	..	0 11 0
Newstead ..	..	..	2 6 0
Lake Rowan ..	..	..	2 19 0
Prahran ..	..	..	0 9 6

Port Fairy ..	..	..	2 0 10
Polkemmet ..	..	..	2 3 0
Richmond North ..	..	..	10 0 4
Shepparton ..	..	..	1 15 0
South Yarra ..	..	..	12 0 0
St. Kilda ..	..	..	1 10 3
Surrey Hills ..	..	..	4 18 6
Toolamba ..	..	..	1 10 0
Taradale ..	..	..	0 15 0
Warmer West ..	..	..	3 6 1
Warragul ..	..	..	0 15 0
Wedderburn ..	..	..	3 7 9
Yarrowalla ..	..	..	0 10 0
Yanac North ..	..	..	1 5 6
Yando ..	..	..	1 0 0
Elmhurst ..	..	..	1 0 0
Collection at Conference 1900 ..	..	..	16 17 0

Sundry Contributions .. £314 0 7

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Kalgoorlie ..	..	..	£2 0 0
Coolgardie ..	..	..	8 4 0
Perth ..	..	..	6 10 0
Fremantle ..	..	..	6 6 1
Subiaco ..	..	..	4 3 6
Kanowna ..	..	..	2 15 0
Boulder ..	..	..	1 0 0

Sundry .. 30 18 7  
 .. 1 10 0  
 £32 8 7

HYMN BOOK ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.

To Balance in Savings Bank, 1900 ..	£41 14 11
Bank Interest ..	1 0 0
..	£42 14 11

EXPENDITURE.

By Insurance on Stereos ..	£0 4 6
Balance in Savings Bank ..	42 10 5
..	£42 14 11

Audited and found correct,

J. BARNACLE, A.S.A.A., ENG. } Auditors.  
 15/3/01. A. R. LYALL.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

With hearts overflowing with gratitude to God we present our report of another year's struggle against the arch monster of intemperance. The following appointments were made at the first meeting held: Chairman, W. C. Morro, B.A.; Vice-Chairman, A. Millis; Press Correspondent, T. J. Cook; Secretary and Treasurer, J. G. Shain. Realising the importance of our work, the motto "at least one temperance demonstration in each church of Christ throughout Victoria" was adopted as our ideal. In order to press toward this mark we appealed to our Home Missionaries and the secretaries of churches in country centres for assistance, and were rejoiced at receiving such hearty and ready responses to the call. Much success we believe has been achieved in this direction in the country. For the city and suburban campaign we were more than fortunate in securing the whole-hearted support of Bro. Nat Haddow and his singing party, with Miss Jeannie Dickens as pianist, who have in all weathers and at all meetings scored such signal triumphs. We herewith tender them our hearty thanks and appreciation, and trust they will continue on in their labour of love. Demonstrations have been held at the Fitzroy Tabernacle, Brunswick, Richmond, North Fitzroy, North Melbourne, Glenferrie, Yarraville, Prahran, Footscray, South Melbourne, Collingwood, Newmarket, Doncaster, Brighton and Malvern. Speakers were also provided for a locally arranged meeting at Cheltenham, and a cantata was well rendered at Lygon St. chapel by the Christian Temperance Choir. This choir has been formed under the direction of Bro. Nat Haddow, and only requires the sympathy and support of the brotherhood to make it a powerful factor for good. We have met with good receptions everywhere, Doncaster deserving special mention in

this respect, and all are eager for our next visit. Your committee also took part individually in such temperance work as Deputations to Government Alliance, Sunday School, Endeavor and Band of Hope work. During the year 116 pledges have been taken. Our sincere thanks is due also to the editor of the "AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN," for his kindness in publishing notices of meetings and a temperance column which has proved very helpful to us. We wish to likewise thank all who took part in our meetings; church officers for use of buildings, and speakers, singers and elocutionists who so readily assisted the committee. We now leave our work in God's hands, trusting we have done something useful in educating, rebuking, and exhorting concerning the evils of intemperance, and we earnestly long and pray for the time when the drink curse shall no longer hamper the spread of the gospel and the cause of the Master whom we love, whose we are and whom we serve. During the year 12 meetings were held. Attendances:—T. J. Cook, 11; M. W. Green, 9; T. Hagger, 8; A. Millis, 9; W. C. Morro, 11; W. Wilscn, 4; J. G. Shain, 12.

W. C. MORRO, B.A., PRESIDENT.  
 J. G. SHAIN, SECRETARY.

BALANCE SHEET.

YEAR ENDING 23rd MARCH, 1901.

RECEIPTS.

To Balance, 1900 ..	£10 13 10
Collection, Conference Demonstration ..	4 1 9
.. Fitzroy Tabernacle ..	1 4 9
.. Brunswick ..	1 1 4
.. Richmond ..	1 9 10
.. Nth. Fitzroy ..	1 5 6
.. Nth. Melbourne ..	0 12 7
.. Glenferrie ..	1 0 7
.. South Melbourne ..	0 9 4
.. Collingwood ..	0 12 3
.. Newmarket ..	0 7 2
.. Doncaster ..	2 7 2
.. Lygon-st. (Cantata) ..	4 11 3
.. Brighton ..	0 17 3
.. Malvern ..	0 11 4
..	£31 6 2

EXPENDITURE.

To Expenses Conference Demonstration ..	£7 4 9
Advertising, Bills ..	4 17 6
.. Newspapers ..	1 0 0
.. Alliance Donation ..	1 1 0
.. Travelling Expenses ..	3 17 2
.. Cantata Books ..	3 3 0
.. Expenses, Cantata ..	3 13 6
.. Sundries, Postage, etc. ..	2 15 7
.. Cash on hand ..	3 15 8
..	£31 6 2

Audited and found correct,

J. BARNACLE, A.S.A.A., EDG. } Auditors.  
 22/3/01. A. R. LYALL.

This report was introduced by J. G. Shain. Bro. Morro, in speaking to the report, bore high testimony to the work done by the secretary, J. G. Shain, to whom much of their successful work was due. The following brethren endorsed the remarks of Bro. Morro:—Brethren Ludbrook, Bryce, Huntsman, Greenwood, Millis, Green and McLean. J. G. Shain thanked the brethren for the many kind things they had said about his work as secretary. He considered that special thanks were due to Bro. Nat Haddow and his choir, who made the way clear for holding successful public meetings. He deeply regretted that his other duties prevented him from continuing to act as secretary. The report was adopted.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION REPORT.

We have pleasure in handing in a brief report of our work for the past year. The session has been one of steady progress, and our work has prospered. Since our last report there has been one additional school affiliated with the Union, whilst one or two others have been reinstated, after a temporary lapse. The prominent feature of our year's work has been, as usual, our annual examination. We have for the



The report was introduced by Bro. Gole, and the following brethren spoke to it:—Clow, Swain, Martin, Green, and Huntsman. The report was adopted.

In connection with the Sunday School Bro. F. M. Ludbrook gave an address on the subject of Training the Young to Give.

The address was listened to with great attention, and Bro. Duncan of S.A., and others, spoke in support of it.

It was resolved that it be a recommendation from the Conference that the children in our Sunday Schools be encouraged to make offerings for philanthropic objects, in order to train them up in systematic habits.

It was also resolved that the churches be recommended to provide for the expenses of their Lord's day schools out of the church funds.

## Victorian Conference Essay.

### Our Present Opportunities and Obligations in Missionary Enterprise.

R. G. CAMERON.

The primary purpose for which our Annual Conference is held is to secure and maintain the co-operation of the churches in Missionary work. The chief interest in these annual gatherings, centres in the reports, and discussions thereon, of the Home and Foreign Missionary enterprises; and it is to be earnestly hoped that the time will never come when other questions will be permitted to overshadow this great and superlatively important subject in our Conferences. At the first, the Missionary work contemplated and undertaken by the Conference, was confined to our own home lands, but several years since, the work of Foreign Missions was entered upon, and whatever misgivings some of us may have had, in the past, or may still have, as to the expediency of our engaging in Foreign work, while so much remains to be done at home; I think it must now be acknowledged that Foreign Missions are with us to stay, and that seeing we have put our hands to this plough, there must be no looking back, and that in the future, as for several years past, Foreign Missions will rank but second in importance to Home Missions in the deliberations of our Conferences. But the pride of place must be given to Home Missions. This much, I submit, the highest wisdom, and the truest patriotism demand. Without wishing to detract in the least from the importance of Foreign Missions, and while conceding the right of churches, and of individual brethren to support that work financially and otherwise as they think right, I want to-day, to urge the pre-eminent importance of Home Missions. I want to put in a plea for the Evangelisation of our own people, and through the medium of this Essay to appeal to the brotherhood in Victoria, and not in Victoria alone, but throughout the Commonwealth and New Zealand, to recognise the supreme and pressing need and obligation to sound forth throughout the length and breadth of our lands in every city, and in every town and village, the glorious gospel of the grace of God. I wish to urge upon the brethren both

in the cities and in the country districts, the consideration of the question, as to whether the time has not arrived, when we should initiate a forward movement, having for its object the extension of our spheres of influence, a wider spread knowledge of our distinctive position, and of our glorious plea, and the presentation of the primitive gospel to multitudes of people who have never heard it. I ask you to consider,

#### I.—THE NEED FOR SUCH AN EFFORT.

1. The necessity for our making such an effort appears when we remember that the members of churches of Christ in this state of Victoria, represent something less than one in every three hundred of the population. And if we suppose that the number of children attending our Lord's day schools throughout the state, equals the number of church members, and if we further assume that the number of "strangers" attending our gospel meetings is about the same, then we see that just about one per cent of our entire population come under the sound of the gospel as we proclaim it, and making liberal allowance for those who occasionally hear it, but who from various causes are not regular attendants at our meetings, and for others, who may learn something of us and our teaching through the medium of our literature, it is safe to say that the total number of people in our own land who know anything of the old Jerusalem gospel, and of the magnificent plea we advocate, or of the distinctive position we occupy, does not exceed 3 per cent of the whole. That of every hundred people in this State there are 97 who know nothing about us as a people, and are consequently, as ignorant of many things that we regard as essential truths. In other words, that we as a people, after 50 years existence in this continent are directly influencing not more, and probably considerably less than 3 per cent of its inhabitants. The last Home Mission number of the AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN, published December 13th, presents some startling figures bearing on this subject. It declares that in this State of Victoria alone, there are 1440 towns in which the primitive gospel has never been preached, and that, of that number the odd 40 have populations of 1000 and over. Surely the consideration of these facts and figures, must impress us with the magnitude of the work that is before us, and the great and urgent need there is for our making an effort to accomplish it—an effort that shall be worthy of ourselves, and our great Mission.

2. I urge that such a movement is necessary, because our life, our very existence as a people, depends upon it. We must go forward, or we shall retrograde and in due time die. Ours is essentially a Missionary work, and one of the necessities of our organic existence is aggressive Missionary work. If we have not a special Mission in the world, then we have no right to a separate, organic existence. If we have a Mission and fail to prosecute it, then, not only do we deserve to die, but we shall die as a natural and necessary sequence.

If we believe in our glorious plea for the restoration of the Christianity of the New Testament in all its original purity and sim-

licity, for the unity of the Lord's people, and for the recognition of the divine authority of the word of God as the only and sufficient rule of Christian faith and practice; if we believe that God in his providence has raised us up as a people, and commissioned us to go into all the world and preach the original Pentecostal gospel; if we believe that the deepest needs of the unsaved millions of our race, and that there are other millions of our godly souls, who, if they understood it, would joyfully accept our noble plea and stand with us for a united Christendom; if we believe that we have such a Mission to the world; then I say that God and humanity demand that we shall prosecute that Mission with such vigor and intelligence as will at once justify our existence, and secure such a measure of success that so high a Mission deserves.

It is a universal law, operating as truly and as inevitably in the spiritual realm as in the world of nature, that any creature or any member of any body, that by reason of environment or from any cause whatever, fails to perform the functions for which it was designed and called into being, gradually and finally loses the power to so act. And if we fail to prosecute our mission to the world, we shall lose the power to do so. Our talents will be taken away from us. Our candlestick will be removed out of its place. Retrogression and death must ensue. The law of self-preservation demands that we recognise the need for the initiation of a forward movement.

2. Let us consider now our opportunities for doing this work. There never has been a time when we have not had great opportunities—whether we have always risen to them need not now be discussed; the point to which attention is now directed is that we have to-day greater opportunities than ever before. This appears—(1) From the fact that we are now numerically and otherwise strong enough to undertake a vigorous, aggressive campaign. We were never so strong as we are to-day. We have got beyond the adolescent stage of our existence. If I may speak in a figure, we have passed safely through our infancy and early youth, and have attained to man's estate, and are now able to assume a man's responsibility and to do a man's work. We are no longer a feeble folk. We are a body 5500 strong in this State, and if 5500 men and women, with God behind them, with a pure, original Christianity as their platform, and the unadulterated Word of God in their hands, cannot make a mighty impression upon the religious life of the people of this country, then it is time for us to give up and go out of the business altogether. (2) Then, too, we have passed the experimental stage of our existence as a people. A history extending over more than four-fifths of a century in the United States of America and England, and more than half a century in Australasia, has demonstrated the practicability of our plea for unity upon the Word of God alone, without reference to human creed or systems of theology. We have shown to the world that churches can live and thrive, and do efficient work, knowing no other system of organisation than that of the

apostolic churches. We have proved that the pure, apostolic gospel we preach can win the hearts and regenerate the lives of men and women, and after the keenest criticism and most exhaustive discussion of the essential, distinctive features of that gospel, and of the position we occupy, we have the satisfaction of knowing to-day that every thing we contend for has received the unqualified endorsement of the ripest scholarship of our times. In other words, first century Christianity has been given another trial in the 19th century, and it has proved a triumphant success. We have now no occasion to apologise for anything we either teach or practice. Our position is impregnable.

(3) Then again we are financially strong enough for this work. 'Tis true we are not a wealthy people, but we are not of the poorest. At least we can claim to be on a level with the average Victorian citizen as regards the possession of wealth. According to Mr. Coghlan, the N.S.W. Government Statist, the total private wealth held by the people of Victoria amounts to £270,309,000. Now, leaving out of the calculation children under the age of 15 years, there are 780,800 people who own that amount of wealth between them, and it averages in round figures £346 per capita. There are 5,500 disciples in Victoria, but making liberal allowance for those of the number who are under 15, there are at least 5000 who own the State average of £346 worth of wealth, or an aggregate of £1,730,000. Now, one eighth per cent. of that amount, or 2/6 for every £100 of it, if given for Home Mission work, would provide an income of more than £2000. Again, according to the same statistical authority, the average income in 1899 per inhabitant was within a fraction of £43. Of course if children under 15 were excluded the average would be much higher, but taking it as Coghlan gives it we find that the disciples in this State had in 1899 an aggregate income of in round figures £260,000. One per cent. only of that amount if given to the Home work would provide the Committee with an income of £2600. Now, it is not my purpose to-day to advocate that we should give one eighth per cent. of the value of our possessions, or one per cent. of our incomes, or any other specific per centage to this work; although if we were to give so much I do not think that we could claim to have done a great thing, and if we even went so far as to give twice or thrice as much I do not believe that it would absolutely ruin us. But I have quoted these figures to show what we *could* do if we were pleased to make the effort—to prove that we are in a position financially to undertake an aggressive forward movement. But do not these figures also show us how little we are doing in this direction? The ancient Jew gave his tenth to the Lord; that was his minimum. It may be said he gave it because the law required it, but we can go back to the days of Abraham long before the law was given and we find the tenth principle recognised by him, and according to some authorities it was in operation among the Carthaginians and Phœnicians. If we gave a tenth it would mean that the disciples in this State would raise £26,000 a year for the Lord's work. I venture to say that for all

purposes—support of preachers, erection of church buildings, Missionary work, and payment of ordinary church expenses, we are not raising more than one fourth of that amount per annum.

It has often been said that as a people we have not learned the lesson, or acquired the grace of giving as we should—that we have not yet been educated up to a recognition of our duty and obligation in that respect. At least if we have, we are singularly slow to reduce the lesson to practice. It is grand and inspiring for us to know that we are a great people, that we are right—theoretically and scripturally right—but, as the *American Christian Standard* well said in a recent article, "We need a vision." We need to see the glory and the greatness of the kingdom of our Christ, and the imperativeness of his claims on our lives, and our houses, our farms and our banks. A vision that will make us ashamed of the feebleness of our efforts and the penuriousness of our giving. Horace Bushnell says, "The great problem which we have now on hand, is the Christianizing of the money power of the world." I do not believe that the money power of the world, will ever be Christianized, but I do believe that what is wanted, is that the money power of the church shall be Christianized. And until it is, until the Lord's people learn that their wealth belongs not to themselves but to him, that the money in their hands, is trust money, and that upon them devolves the sacred obligation to use it in such a way that it will bring in returns that shall glorify its rightful owner—until we learn that giving to the Lord's work is something higher and nobler than contributing to the support of a mere club, that it is an act of worship, and that it is most acceptable to our God when it involves sacrifice on our part—until we have learned these lessons and are reducing them to practice, the church will not be able to accomplish the mighty things for God and humanity that she ought to accomplish.

(4) But, again, the enlarged national life upon which we in Australia have so recently entered gives us a further magnificent opportunity for the extension of our work. There can be little doubt that the binding together of the several States under one Government, the breaking down of Inter-State barriers, thus uniting Australians as one people under one flag, will tend to the rapid development of our natural resources, a rapid increase in our population and to promote the material prosperity of our people, and as the population grows and the national wealth increases, so will increase and multiply our opportunities for aggressive missionary work.

The number of disciples in the United States of America (so says the *Standard*) multiplied by nearly ten, while the population of that country multiplied by three. We begin our national life with approximately the same population that the United States began theirs. There is no reason why our national development shall not be as great and rapid as has been that of America, and if it prove to be so, then within the next two or three decades millions of people will come to our shores from other lands. We should be prepared—we must be prepared—to greet them with the old

Jerusalem gospel message. It will be to us an eternal disgrace if we do not.

(5) Yet once more, we see the enlargement of our opportunities in the growth of the union sentiment amongst the great churches of Protestantism. The attitude of the religious world to-day toward this question, is in striking contrast to that of fifty years ago and previously. A wonderful change has been wrought, by what agencies I will not now stay to discuss. We rejoice in the fact, and in the manifestly growing desire for the abolition of denominational boundaries, of which there are so many cheering indications not only in Australia and America, but in the older and more conservative Protestant countries. It is doubtless true that the unity which is being advocated by our Presbyterian and Methodist friends, amounts to no more, and perhaps something less than a mere amalgamation of sects, and falls far short of our own ideal, but the fact that unity is in the air, that it is being seriously discussed amongst these peoples, gives ground for the high hope, and the strong belief, that our plea for unity on the basis of the New Testament, will in the future be favourably received and gladly accepted by multitudes of people, who have grown weary of their creedal systems and sectarian divisions. And therefore, for all these reasons, because of our strength in numbers, and in wealth, because we are standing to-day within the portal of an enlarged national life, and all its glorious possibilities, and because the religious world is being prepared for our mission, and the reception of our message, I urge that we stand to-day in the presence of opportunities greater and grander than ever before in our history.

Let us rise to the occasion! Let us "grasp the skirts," not of chance, but of our growing and multiplying opportunities. Let us be worthy of our Mission, and rise in the strength that God has given us and do the work to which he has called us. Consistency with our undoubtedly correct position, and with our high professions, demands that we shall do this—that we shall recognise our obligations and faithfully discharge them before God and man.

I desire to conclude this paper with a practical suggestion, I suggest the inauguration of a Tent Mission. Let a tent be procured, large enough to accommodate an audience of at least 250 persons. Let two brethren be selected—the best preachers available—and let them pitch the tent on the best site procurable in one of the large towns of this State where we are not represented, and let them settle down to a vigorous campaign to be continued as long as may be necessary. When a church has been organised and established some other brother should be appointed to permanently occupy the field, under the supervision of the Missionary Committee, until the cause becomes self-supporting. The tent preachers would do the pioneer work, and two capable and earnest men should be able to establish from two to four strong churches in the course of a year. These churches in turn would become centres of gospel light and influence, and helpers in the work of general evangelisation. Now as to ways and means. According to an estimate I have received

from a city firm of tent makers, a tent 60 ft. x 30 ft. (large enough to accommodate 250 persons) would cost about £50; 250 strong camp chairs would cost £40/10/-, so that the cost of the whole outfit would be not more than £100. Then, allowing £350 per annum for the preachers' salaries and £50 for incidental expenses, such a mission as is suggested could be started by an outlay of £100, and continued for an expenditure of £400 per annum.

It ought not to be a difficult matter to raise such a sum. I suggest that we initiate a tent mission fund, and if the matter is put

clearly before the brotherhood, and earnestly and persistently pressed upon them, I am persuaded that the money can be raised. Indeed it ought not to be difficult to get the whole amount promised in this meeting to-day. All that is needed, is a little enthusiasm, backed by consecrated liberality, and the thing is done.

The scheme is practicable and well within our reach, and if adopted will give our work of Home Evangelisation a much needed impetus and result in the salvation of many souls to the glory of God.

increase of 111, and a present membership of 1,681. We regret to have to report a decrease of 21 scholars in our Sunday schools. The number of scholars added to the churches was 39.

Carried on motion of Brethren Ewers and Rossell, with Statistical register.

#### FINANCES.

The year has been financially a very trying one, and at one time it was thought that we should have to reduce our preaching staff, but after full consideration it was decided to appeal to the churches we were assisting and also to the Sydney and Enmore churches for increased contributions. These heartily responded; Lismore raised its amount from £17/6 to £1/15, Marrickville from £1 to £1/10, and Merewether from £1 to £1/7/6 per week; Sydney promised to contribute £5 per month, and Enmore, which has the Petersham Mission in charge, decided to equally divide the funds raised for Home Missions between the Conference Committee and the Petersham field. Special assistance was also rendered by a few brethren, and your committee was thus enabled to carry on the work until January 1st, when Enmore relieved us of the Marrickville responsibility by taking over the work in that field.

As will be seen by the balance sheet the income has been larger than in any previous year. We commenced with a debit balance of £74/5/9. The total receipts have been £433/13/2, and the expenditure £420/1/2, leaving a debit of £6-/13/8. The collection taken up on Home Mission Day, the first Lord's day in January, amounted to £39/9/2, as compared with £38/13/2 last year, and £27/19/7 in 1889. We trust that the improvement will be still more marked next year.

Spoken to by Brethren Spedding, Gole, Arnott, Leck, Dickson, Price, Ewers and Hawkins, and adopted with Financial statement, on the motion of Brethren Barrett and Rofe.

#### CHANGES IN COMMITTEE.

The removal of our esteemed Treasurer, Bro. J. T. Hunter, to New Zealand shortly after last Conference, left a vacancy on the committee which was filled by the appointment of Bro. C. A. Rofe. Bro. Arnott, the Assistant Secretary, kindly took up the Treasurer's work, and Bro. Rofe that of Assistant Secretary. Subsequently Bro. Arnott resigning the trusteeship, Bro. E. Gole took his position as Treasurer on the Executive.

Carried on suggestion of Chairman.

#### OUR MISSION FIELDS.

##### LISMORE.

As directed by resolution of last Conference, your Committee, at its first meeting, engaged Bro. Way to continue the work in this important field. His labor has been extended to surrounding districts, Bungawalbyn, Dunoon, and other places. At Lismore 14 have been added by faith and baptism, and at Bungawalbyn, 6, and 3 have been restored to fellowship, making 23 additions in all. Since Bro. Way first commenced his labors in Lismore in June 1899, 51 have been added to the Church in that town, the net increase being 44 and the present membership 91.

##### MARRICKVILLE.

Bro. J. Colbourne labored faithfully in this field under the Committee up to 1st January, but for various reasons the numerical progress has been disappointing. We sympathise with our brother and the Church there in the comparative lack of visible results. A fortnight's mission was conducted by Brethren Walden and Dickson and well attended, but did not result in additions. In the latter part of last year Marrickville brethren made a request to the

## New South Wales Conference.

The sixteenth Annual Conference of the Associated Churches of Christ in N.S.W. was held in City Temple, Campbell-st., Sydney, on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th April.

On Wednesday, April 3rd, at 7.30, Bro. Colbourne read an essay on "The Prospective View of Primitive Christianity in N.S.W.—Its Hindrances and Agencies." The subject was dealt with in an able manner from different standpoints. A general discussion took place, several brethren taking part and emphasising the amount of good in ventilating opinions in meetings of this character. A hearty vote of thanks was given to Bro. Colbourne, and it was resolved to ask Bro. Maston to publish the essay with other Conference matter in the CHRISTIAN.

On Thursday evening, April 4th, a Foreign Missionary meeting was held, and although not largely attended was very interesting. Bro. D. A. Ewers presided. Addresses were given by Bren. Colbourne, W. J. Way, and L. A. Williams, and a good musical programme was given by church choirs, Chinese class, and individual singers. Judging by the Foreign Mission success of the past year, we would say the gathering was made up of quality if not quantity.

All day Conference, Good Friday, April 5. Morning Session.—At 9.30 a praise and prayer meeting was held, presided over by Bro. T. Bagley. Short addresses were given by Bren. D. C. McCallum, and W. J. Way. The stirring hymns, petitions for God's help, and exhortations were the best preparation for the business of the session. At 10.15 the President, Bro. G. P. Jones, took the chair and welcomed the following visitors:—Bren. Hawkins and Price, Prospect; Bro. Winter, Moree; Bro. and Sister Robinson, Bungawalbyn; Bro. and Sister Edwards, Manning River; Sister Way, Lismore; Bro. and Sister Stewart and Bro. Wright, Merewether; Dr. James Kingsbury, Katoomba; Bro. and Sister McKie, Queensland; Bro. and Sister Saunders, Roma, Queensland; and a general welcome was given to all present.

The roll of delegates was then called, about 100 answering as present, representing Prospect, Manning River, Merewether, Lismore, Moree, Rookwood, Croydon, Petersham, Marrickville, Woollahra, Sydney and

Enmore. A number of brethren and sisters were present, the meeting growing larger as time went on. All were deeply interested in the proceedings, for which we felt pleased.

The minutes of previous Conference were read and confirmed. Letters of greetings were read from Victorian and W. Australian Conferences, Bro. R. C. Gilmour (Roma, Qld.) and Bro. Walden, with hopes for good Conference. These letters were a pleasing feature in our gathering, and we fully appreciate the kindly Christian feeling expressed in them. The Secretary stated that he had reciprocated good wishes, and his action was heartily endorsed by the Conference.

#### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Bro. C. P. Jones took for the subject of his address, "Looking at the Present," or, we might put it in the words of Longfellow, summing up his remarks thus:

"Trust no future, howe'er pleasant,  
Let the dead past bury its dead;  
Act—act in the living present,  
Heart within, and God o'erhead."

Bro. D. R. Hall proposed, and Brethren J. Hunter and J. Colbourne supported, a hearty vote of thanks to the President for his plain and practical address.—Carried unanimously.

It was also resolved to forward same to AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN. [It will appear next week].

Brethren Rowles and D. Hall were appointed reporters for the daily press Conference proceedings.

The Annual Report was then dealt with clause by clause, thus:

DEAR BRETHREN,—In presenting our Annual report we are pleased to state that the year has been one of progress, and although our numerical increase in the Home Mission fields has not been as rapid as we could have wished, we are thankful that the Lord's blessing has so largely attended our efforts,

#### STATISTICS.

We are pleased to be able to report an increase of church members again this year. The total additions have been: By faith and immersion, 172; by letter, 27; formerly baptised, 27; restored, 8; total, 234. The losses were: By letter, 36; death, 9; removal and revision of roll, 78; total, 123, leaving a net in-

Enmore Church for organic union. This was granted and Marrickville is now a portion of the Enmore Church. The Committee was therefore relieved of financial responsibility from January 1st.

MEREWETHER.

Bro. Pond was engaged to labor here for another term. The work has progressed steadily. 13 have been added to the Church of whom 7 were by faith and baptism, and the School has increased from 77 to 100. Under Bro. Pond's initiative the debt on the building of about £70 has been cleared off and the chapel has been put in a state of thorough repair. Bro. Pond has decided to leave this field for Victoria at the end of April, where we wish him continued prosperity in the Lord's work.

ROOKWOOD.

The Church at Rookwood has had the labors of Bro. Williams for another year, the Committee assisting financially. The action of the brethren in this field is to be highly commended. They have kept the flag flying in the face of great difficulties. During the year 19 have been added to the Church, of whom 12 were by faith and baptism, and the School has increased from 75 to 100. It has been found necessary to provide more accommodation for the School, and a vestry has been erected at a cost of £60. The outlook is very encouraging.

MOREE AND MUNGINDI.

Immediately after last Conference Bro. Ewers paid a visit to these districts, and on his return, the churches, through him, requested your Committee to select an evangelist to labor between the two fields, they being prepared to provide salary and travelling expenses. Bro. D. McCallum was selected and commenced his work at the beginning of January. It is early yet to expect much in the way of results, but so far 3 have been baptised and a Sunday School with 29 scholars started in Moree. A good beginning has been made and we hope to hear of continued success.

SUMMARY OF HOME MISSION WORK.

Brethren Way and Pond have been engaged for the whole of the Conference year. Bro. Colbourne was supported for nine months and Bro. McCallum since January 1st. Assistance to the extent of 10/- per week has also been rendered to Rookwood since last Conference. The additions in the mission fields were, by faith and baptism 45, other sources 18; total 63.

EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

The usual open air meeting was held in the Sydney Domain, the speakers being Brethren Bagley, Colbourne, Dickson and Walden. A large number of tracts with addresses of Church meetings were distributed. In the evening the Sisters arranged a tea in the City Temple, which was followed by a Home Mission Meeting.

Carried on suggestion of Chairman.

FUTURE WORK.

In making suggestions for future work we realise the difficulties of the situation, the chief being the lack of sufficient funds. We would advise the continuance of evangelistic work at Lismore and Merewether, provided the Churches are prepared to continue their liberal contributions. We think Rookwood worthy of special consideration with a view to more assistance being rendered. In Moree and Mungindi arrangements have been made for the labors of Bro. McCallum being continued until the end of December at least. There are other inviting fields but we trust the policy which the Conference has for the past three or four years adopted of continuing, if possible, to occupy a field, until it becomes self-supporting, will not be abandoned.

Spoken to by Brethren Price, Ewers,

Hawkins, Walker, Williams and Roe. Carried on the motion of Bro. Arnott and Wright.

THANKS.

Our thanks are due to the collectors and contributors of our Home Mission Fund, and to the members of the Sisters' Conference, who in addition to collecting money, have on various occasions undertaken the responsibility and work for providing meals in connection with Conference meetings. We desire also to thank the officers of the Enmore and Sydney Churches for the use of their buildings. And, above all, we express our gratitude to our heavenly Father for His blessing upon our work.

OBITUARY.

Among those who have fallen asleep during the year is our Sister Miss A Ker, and we desire to place on record, our regret at her departure, and our appreciation of her unwearied and practical interest in Mission Work. "She rests from her labors and her works do follow her."

COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

The Committee has held 17 meetings during the year the attendance being as follows:—Bro. G. P. Jones, 16; R. Steer, 15; E. Gole, 13; J. Chapple, 13; P. A. Dickson 13; C. A. Rofe (Appointed in June) 12; G. T. Walden 10; G. Arnott 14; D. A. Ewers 12; W. McIndoe 16; J. T. Hunter (Resigned in May) 3.

G. P. JONES, President.  
R. STEER, Secretary.

Adopted on Motion of Chairman.

AGED AND DISABLED PREACHERS' FUND.

The matter of the proposed Aged and Disabled Preachers' Fund, remitted to us for consideration at last Conference, has received the attention of the Committee, and we regret that we do not at present see our way to propose any practicable plan for attaining this deservable object. We would suggest the appointment of a small committee to prepare a report for next Conference.

Resolved on the motion of Brethren Price and Hunter that a special Committee be appointed to draw up report for next Conference.

The following were appointed as above:—Brethren A. Price, J. Hunter and E. Gole.

BALANCE-SHEET—HOME MISSION FUND.

RECEIPTS.

By Church Fees—			
Bungawalbyn .. .. .	£0	10	0
Enmore and Petersham .. .. .	2	0	0
Manning River .. .. .	0	10	0
Marrickville .. .. .	1	0	0
Sydney .. .. .	1	0	0
Woollahra .. .. .	1	0	0
Contributions from Assisted Churches—			
Lismore .. .. .	68	4	0
Do., per Manning River .. .. .	10	11	0
Marrickville .. .. .	60	10	6
Merewether .. .. .	62	10	0
Sisters' Conference and Church Collections from—			
Enmore .. .. .	23	1	9
Sydney .. .. .	48	5	11
Marrickville .. .. .	1	7	0
Petersham .. .. .	4	14	7
Woollahra .. .. .	0	19	8
Home Mission and Lord's Day Collection—			
Bungawalbyn .. .. .	1	1	6
Corowa .. .. .	2	1	0
Enmore .. .. .	9	0	0
June .. .. .	1	3	0
Lismore .. .. .	3	8	9
Manning River .. .. .	3	11	0
Marrickville .. .. .	1	12	3
Merewether .. .. .	1	0	0
Moree .. .. .	1	3	6
Mungindi .. .. .	1	0	0
Petersham .. .. .	4	15	8
Rookwood .. .. .	1	10	0
Sydney .. .. .	6	2	6

Woollahra .. .. .	2	0	0
Marrickville Special Fund .. .. .	8	2	0
Printing—			
Foreign Missionary Committee .. .. .	0	2	6
Lismore .. .. .	0	7	6
Manning River .. .. .	0	5	0
Marrickville .. .. .	0	5	0
Merewether .. .. .	0	5	0
Moree .. .. .	0	5	0
Sydney .. .. .	0	10	0
Woollahra .. .. .	0	5	0

Miscellaneous Receipts—			
Collected at Annual Sessions, 13th April, 1900 .. .. .	17	14	8
Donations by Individual Contributors .. .. .	69	15	0
Manning River Church .. .. .	7	0	0
Picnic Receipts .. .. .	3	17	0
Sisters' Conference .. .. .	2	10	0
Merewether (travelling expenses) .. .. .	1	10	0
Sale of Photographs .. .. .	0	6	0
Debit Balance .. .. .	60	13	8
	£494	6	11

EXPENDITURE.

Salaries—			
Bro. Way .. .. .	£145	10	0
Bro. Colbourne .. .. .	117	0	0
Bro. Pond .. .. .	100	0	0
Assistance to Rookwood .. .. .	25	0	0
Secretary's Allowance .. .. .	6	0	0
Duty and Postage Stamps .. .. .	3	9	7
Bank Exchanges and Account Charges .. .. .	1	3	0
Bank Interest Account .. .. .	3	4	7
Picnic Expenses .. .. .	7	0	0
Board, Bro. McCallum .. .. .	1	0	0
Printing .. .. .	10	4	0
Debit Balance, March 31st, 1900 .. .. .	74	5	9

Debit Balance forward, £60 13 8.

E. GOLE, Treasurer. 18th March, 1901. Audited and found correct, 26th March, 1901. H. HUNTER and C. ARNOUR VERO.

SUMMARY OF CHURCH AND INDIVIDUAL COLLECTIONS.

Enmore—			
Collected by Sisters .. .. .	£23	1	9
Home Mission Sunday .. .. .	9	0	0
Individual Contributors .. .. .	21	3	6
Lismore—			
General .. .. .	68	4	0
Home Mission Sunday .. .. .	3	8	9
Individual Contributors .. .. .	0	10	0
Manning River—(for Lismore) .. .. .	10	11	0
Church and Individual .. .. .	7	0	0
Home Mission Sunday .. .. .	3	11	0
Marrickville—			
General .. .. .	60	10	6
Special Fund .. .. .	8	2	0
Collected by Sisters' Conference .. .. .	1	7	0
Home Mission Sunday .. .. .	1	12	3
Individual Contributors .. .. .	0	15	0
Merewether—			
General .. .. .	62	10	0
Home Mission Sunday .. .. .	1	0	0
Travelling Expenses .. .. .	1	10	0
Petersham—			
Collected by Sisters' Conference .. .. .	4	14	7
Home Mission Sunday .. .. .	4	15	8
Individual Contributors .. .. .	1	10	0
Sydney—			
Collected by Sisters' Conference .. .. .	43	5	11
Home Mission Sunday .. .. .	6	2	6
Individual Contributions .. .. .	25	15	6
Woollahra—			
Collected by Sisters' Conference .. .. .	0	19	8
Home Mission Sunday .. .. .	2	0	0
Individual Contributors .. .. .	0	10	0
Bungawalbyn .. .. .	1	1	6
Corowa .. .. .	2	1	0
Fairfield, Bro. G. Stimson .. .. .	1	0	0
June .. .. .	1	3	0
Melbourne, Bro. Campbell Edwards .. .. .	10	0	0
Moree .. .. .	1	3	6
Mungindi .. .. .	1	0	0
Rookwood .. .. .	1	10	0
Rooty Hill, Mrs. Francis and J. Francis .. .. .	1	2	6
Temora, J. T. Roberts .. .. .	0	10	0
" F. D. Roberts and Family .. .. .	3	0	0
" C. V. Roberts .. .. .	1	10	0
Sisters' Conference .. .. .	2	10	0
Miscellaneous .. .. .	2	8	6
Total .. .. .	£403	10	7

STATISTICAL REGISTER, MARCH 1st, 1901.

LOCATION OF CHURCH	Church Additions, 1900.					Church Losses 1900.			Membership, 1900.			Lord's Day School				Church Additions from Lord's Day School.	Seating Capacity of Meeting House.
	1900. Membership.	Faith and Obedience.	Letter.	Baptised Believers.	Restored.	Letter.	Death.	Removal or Discipline.	1900. Membership.	Increase.	Decrease.	1900 Scholars.	1901 Scholars.	1900 Teachers.	1901 Teachers.		
Bungawalbyn ..	13	6			2				21	8		22	23	4	3	4	80
Canley Vale ..												25	30	2	3		100
Chatham ..	38	2	1			1	2		38			13	14	2	2		200
Corowa ..	72	11					21		62	10		43	32	4	3		
Croydon ..	8								8			12		1			
Enmore ..	517	45	6	4		14	5	12	541	24		500	441	32	33	12	400
Petersham ..	135	20	2	3		6		7	147	12		129	140	14	16	3	180
Marrickville ..	64	1	2			2		7	58	6		105	100	12	11	1	150
*Junee ..	9								9								
Lismore ..	77	14			1			1	91	14		70	56	6	7	5	300
Merewether ..	59	7	3			1		6	65	6		77	100	8	10	3	200
Moree ..	29	5			3			1	81	2			29		3	1	200
Mungundi ..	18	1						10	9	9		40	13	3	1		100
*Prospect ..	10								10			21	21	1	1		
Rookwood ..	41	12	3	4		1			59	18		75	110	7	10		160
Sydney ..	314	18	8			6	2		332	18		186	150	23	18		500
*Wagga ..	19								19								200
*Wingham ..	16								16								200
Woollahara ..	125	30	2	5	2	4	1	11	148	23		162	200	10	11	10	250
Isolated Brethren																	
Estimated at ..	9			11					20	11							
	1573	172	27	27	8	36	9	78	1684	136	25	1480	1459	129	132	39	3220

Increase of Church Members, 111. Decrease of Sunday School Scholars, 21  
 \*No report. Figures same as last year.

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS.

Resolved on the motion of Brethren Gole and Spedding—that we assist in Federal Jubilee Celebration in Melbourne 1903.

2. That arrangements be made to hold a local Jubilee Celebration in Sydney.

Carried on motion of Brethren MacIndoe and Chapple. Time to be left in hands of Committee.

3. That it is desirable to publish a "History of churches of Christ in Australasia," the financial responsibility being undertaken by the Austral Publishing Co.

Carried on the motion of Brethren Arnott and Barratt.

4. That it be a suggestion to the Melbourne Executive of the Foreign Mission Committee to arrange, if possible, for the visit of a prominent missionary from India or China, or from both countries.

Carried on the motion of Brethren Gole and Spedding.

5. That a standing committee be appointed to consist of the Conference Executive and one member each of the Sisters' Conference Executive, Foreign Mission Committee, S.S. Union, and Temperance Committee, to co-operate with the Melbourne Committee in arranging for a Federal Jubilee Celebration and also, to arrange for a Celebration in Sydney.

Carried on motion of Bro. Arnott.

Resolved on motion of Brethren Ewers and Arnott, That it be a recommendation to Committee to initiate a Jubilee fund for the purpose of establishing the cause in the Federal Capital.

Report adopted as a whole on the motion of Brethren Stimson and Dickson.

At 1 o'clock the Conference adjourned to the schoolroom, where the sisters had prepared luncheon in their usual thoughtful manner. About 160 sat down and very much appreciated good things provided for the temporal needs.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2.15 a praise and prayer service was held, led by Bro. John Kingsbury, which stirred us up for resuming business.

At 5.30 the President took the chair and business was resumed. The Sunday School Union report was then read by Bro. Beer, and adopted on the motion of Bren. Credgington and Stimson.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

Since the last report presented to the Conference a year ago the Sunday School Union has been performing its work quietly, at the same time receiving encouragement from the fact that its labors have met with comparative success, for which we thank God.

In the last report reference was made to the subject of this year's examination, which it was hoped would be upon "First Principles of Christianity." We are pleased to report that such is to be the subject for this year.

At the examination for 1900 there was an increase of 6 competitors as compared with the 1899 examination. The steady increase is more noticeable when we compare the last 3 years, as follows:—

In 1898 there were .. .. 109 examined.  
 1899 " " .. .. 134 "  
 1900 " " .. .. 140 "

It will thus be noticed that each year shows a steady increase, which we are pleased to note.

The number of competitors in all divisions last year was as follows:—

In the 1st division .. .. 14  
 2nd " .. .. 45  
 3rd " .. .. 53  
 4th " .. .. 20  
 5th " .. .. 8

Total .. .. 140

The numbers and results from the different schools were as follows:—

School	Examined	Obtained Prizes	Obtained Certificates
Enmore ..	57	13	38
Sydney ..	35	5	28
Petersham	36	6	23
Lismore ..	9		3
Rookwood	3		2

This is to be considered very satisfactory; yet we

hope that the result of the forthcoming examination will prove greater in every particular.  
 The beautiful sacred cantata, "Under the Palms," has been rendered three times during the year (by request) and on each occasion was witnessed by large audiences. Also a united demonstration was held to commemorate the inauguration of the Commonwealth. This demonstration proved one of the most successful undertakings of the Union, and the expressions of universal satisfaction, coupled with favorably remembered by the Union.

With regret we have to report the withdrawal from the Union of the Woollahra Sunday School, but we hope to see them re-united.

Sister Smith resigned her position as Secretary to the Union, after a faithful service of over three years. Her resignation was accepted with regret.

It is also our very painful duty to record the death of our beloved and much esteemed sister, Miss Amy Ker. For fourteen years our late sister has been a teacher in the Sunday School, where, unfailingly she at all times endeavored, conscientiously, and to the best of her ability to train those entrusted to her care to love and serve God. We cannot speak too highly of her as a Sunday School worker. Being a zealous Christian it was always her aim to act and teach others to lead an unselfish life in the cause of the Master. In the School she is greatly missed, and her place will be hard to fill, and we pray that the memory of her noble character may long prove a stimulus to those still laboring in the Master's vineyard.

JOHN KINGSBURY, President.  
 T. C. WALKER } Joint Secs.  
 T. B. BEER }

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Brethren Hall and Hilder were appointed scrutineers. All positions were largely contested except Secretary's and Treasurer's.

The following is the result of the elections:

President, W. McIndoe.  
 Vice-President, G. T. Walden.  
 Secretary, R. Steer.  
 Asst. Sec., C. A. Rofe.  
 Treasurer, J. Stimson.

Committee:—P. A. Dickson, G. Arnott, J. Chapple, A. Price, L. Rossell.

Foreign Mission Committee:—J. Hunter, J. Colbourne, E. Gole, G. T. Walden. Two sisters to be appointed by Sisters' Conference.

Temperance Committee:—G. T. Walden, J. Colbourne, G. Logan, J. Rootes, L. A. Williams, D. Hall, T. Norton. Two sisters to be appointed from the Sisters' Conference.

Foreign Report read by Bro. Gole with Annual Statement, and adopted on the motion of Brethren Gole and Ewers.

REPORT OF THE NEW SOUTH WALES COMMITTEE OF THE AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

It is with thankfulness that your Committee note the increased interest shown by the churches in the extension of the kingdom of our glorious Master, as evidenced by their more hearty response to the call for the maintenance of those, who, as of old, at the call of their Master, have gone into the regions beyond; and still further evidenced by their hearty response when the call came to succor the starving bodies of the famine-stricken men, women, and children of India. When your Committee started this financial year it aimed for one hundred pounds, and thanks to your liberality our desire has been more than accomplished, the Committee having received £119. But while we rejoice in this we do not intend to stay in the position we occupied last year, but ask you will you make an effort to go one step higher in this first year of the new century. The purpose of every church must ever be onward, upward, higher, and our highest effort this year must be one hundred and fifty pounds.

In the past year you placed one more missionary in the field in India, in the person of our Sister Miss Pfunder, and two native teachers have been appointed in the place of Nathoo Lal, who has resigned. Our proposed work in China has been stayed for the present in the direction we proposed, but has been opened in another, as in all probability our sister Miss Rosa L. Tonkin, of Adelaide, S.A., having passed the



medical inspection, and been accepted as a missionary to China, will, during the present year, leave for Shanghai to fit herself for the work under the supervision of our mission in that city. It is also proposed that the Australasian board take over the support of Bro. Davey, late of Hawthorn, Victoria, who left his country to graduate in one of our American colleges, and who is now laboring in Japan with the American Foreign Missionary Society, the Committee being of opinion that Australia ought to support Australian Missionaries in the field. The work in South Africa as proposed is still in embryo, the unsettled state of that country partly accounting for this.

The famine in India enlisted the sympathy of every body of Christians all the world over, and while many in this State gave of their charity through one or another of the many public lists that were opened, some also gave through this Committee, with the result that £135 was collected and remitted to the Melbourne Executive at the small cost of 17/9. A large case of garments was also made up under the supervision of the united Dorcas Societies and forwarded to India at the small cost of £1/13/1; and thus through the liberality of yourselves and others the hungry were fed, the naked clothed, relief work was found for many, seed was provided for the rice crop, and some of the children of the many who died were placed in the orphanages either at Damoh, Deoghur or Mahoba. From the last report from India we hear that Sister Pfunder was busy studying the language, and equally busy nursing, having had her hands full since her arrival. Bro. Stubbin was erecting a boys' school building, upon which over 100 of the people employed upon the famine relief work are engaged; while Sister Mary Thompson was away with her native helper in the villages. An especial appeal comes to the Endeavor Societies to support the 400 orphans at Damoh, who drifted into the Mission during the recent famine. Their parents perished through want of food. Homeless and friendless, our missionaries could not turn them away to die. They took them depending on the liberality of friends in the home lands. This one orphanage has now between 500 and 600 boys in it. It requires only £3/3/- per annum to house, feed, clothe and educate one of these boys. Will your Endeavor Society undertake the support of one of them? 335 of the Endeavor Societies amongst our people in the United States support Foreign Mission work. The Committee have since last Conference taken over the Chinese Mission Class meeting in Sydney (report of which appears elsewhere), and will, with the permission of this Conference, take this Mission over to be under the control and direction of the Foreign Missionary Committee.

In conclusion, our thanks are due to the church in Sydney for the use of the lower hall for the Chinese Mission on Sunday and week days; to all those, too numerous to mention, who have aided us both in general work and at the time of the Famine Fund work; also to our collectors in the various districts, whose names we append—Waverley, Mrs. E. Bagley; Petersham, Mrs. D. A. Ewers; Enmore, Miss Brown and Mrs. Wallace, vice Mrs. Page (resigned); Sydney, Miss Field and Miss Fox; Marrickville, Mrs. Jones. Finally, we again remind all that each disciple is a missionary; at home to speak to those at home, abroad to speak through those whom the churches through your liberality have sent abroad. To realise that all we are debtors in as much as is in us, to preach the gospel to those that are in India, China, Japan, and in the regions beyond. Our country, throughout the several States, is now considering the financial problem. We, too, have our "Financial Missionary Problem," fields white with the harvest both at home and abroad, funds insufficient to send out workers, funds insufficient to sustain existing Missions, Missions calling for re-inforcement, re-enlargement. The world's need of the gospel is wide, as wide as when Christ gave the world-wide commission 1900 years ago. Be it ours to realise that the treasury of God is as deep and wide as the world's need, and that out of that need he speaks of us to-day.

JAS. HUNTER, President.  
E. GOLE, Sec. and Treas.

CHINESE MISSION REPORT.

Read by Bro. F. Verco and adopted with Balance Sheet.

This class was organised on March 2nd, 1899. From that time until September, 1900, it was conducted under the auspices of the Sydney Church. It was then taken over by the F.M.C. This report deals

with the progress of the class from September 25th, 1900, to March 7th, 1901. The class meets for secular instruction at Lower Hall, City Temple, on Tuesday and Thursday, from 7.30 to 9 p.m. The teaching staff consists of members of the Sydney and Enmore churches. We would be glad to have other churches represented. The spiritual phase of our teaching is kept before the scholars by sacred exercises at opening and closing of class, and by the introduction, as far as possible, of Scripture readings and instruction. An open air meeting is held on Lord's Day evenings at 6.15, when Bro. James, our interpreter, preaches to his compatriots. The result is highly satisfactory, the number of interested Chinese and European listeners being evidence that our preaching is attractive, and, we hope, effective. A gospel meeting is also held in the schoolroom on Lord's Day evening at 7 o'clock. European brethren generally preach, Bro. James interpreting. Occasionally the sermon is wholly Chinese, our interpreter preaching.

Our greatest need is more teachers. Experience has proved the value of individual tuition, as opposed to class tuition. We invite all those who are inspired with missionary zeal, to assist in what has been aptly termed "Foreign Mission at Home." If you never reach a foreign field you will find an outlet for your energy at your doors. This work is truly of the Lord, though it lacks the enchantment lent by distance to service abroad.

We take this opportunity of thanking all who have assisted us, especially the brethren whose names are on the speaking plan. We are unable to report any converts for term covered by this report. There are at present four Chinese in fellowship with Sydney Church, the fruits of the Mission previous to taking over of same by the F.M.C. These are anxious to bring others within the influence of the gospel. The attendance of scholars has not been satisfactory, but we are glad to be able to report a decided improvement in that direction, and a more favorable outlook generally. Average attendance of scholars on class nights, 8; average attendance of teachers on class nights, 8.

HERB. G. PAYNE, President.  
FREDK. VERCO, Secretary.

CHINESE MISSION, FINANCIAL STATEMENT FROM OCTOBER, 1900, TO MARCH 18, 1901.

RECEIPTS.		
By Cash received .. ..	£7	5 0
EXPENDITURE.		
To paid caretaker for cleaning hall ..	£6	0 0
„ Cupboard for books .. ..	0	10 0
„ Cash balance .. ..	0	15 0
	£7	5 0

FEMALE ORPHANAGE, MAHOPA, N.W.P. INDIA, 1899, 1900, 1901.

RECEIPTS.		
By Cash received Sydney and Petersham Lord's Day Schools .. ..	£7	14 3
EXPENDITURE.		
To cost maintaining child for one year ..	£5	0 0
„ Cost of money order and postage ..	0	3 0
„ Cash Balance .. ..	2	11 3
	£7	14 3

E. GOLE, Treasurer.

March 18th, 1901.

Resolved on the motion of Brethren Spedding and Credginton—That it was advisable that date of Home Mission Day be changed from 1st Sunday in January to some other date. To be left to Committee. The reasons given were that there being so many holidays Christmas and New Year it in all probability affected the amount collected.

A general vote of thanks were given to the sisters for preparing dinner, and others who assisted in making Conference a success.

Bro. Wright conveyed the thanks of the Merewether brethren for Conference assistance.

The business session then closed with prayer and Benediction.

EVENING.

At 6 p.m. tea was announced. As a rule tea meetings in Sydney are not a huge success as far as at-

tendance is concerned. I expect it is because our freetrade gives us such a reasonable breakfast table, that the tea meeting is a luxury to no one. However, this tea meeting was an exception. Such a large number attended, that a second sitting took place, and I am sure the good sisters who were managing must have had a trying time. However, everything passed off well—just a little scarcity at the end, but that was to be expected with so large a number sitting down at the small charge of 6d. each.

At 7.30 p.m. a Home Mission meeting was held. A feature of the evening was the number on the splendid platform in the City Temple. Old warriors Dr. Joseph Kingsbury, Thomas Hawkins, W. Winter, G. P. Jones and others. The retiring President, G. P. Jones, took the chair, and in a brief speech introduced the incoming President. Bro. W. McIndoe then took the chair, and thanked the Conference for the honor conferred upon him, and would endeavor by God's help to prove faithful to the trust reposed in him by his brethren. This meeting was largely attended and thoroughly representative. A splendid musical programme was rendered under the leadership of Bro. T. Walker. Stirring addresses were given by Brethren T. Bagley (Woollahra), W. J. Way (Lismore), P. J. Pond (Merewether), L. A. Williams (Rookwood) and D. C. McCallum (Moree). Bro. P. A. Dickson made an earnest appeal on behalf of the funds, resulting in immediate cash and promises of about £30, and a large number of extra promises for weekly and monthly subscriptions.

We feel sure that this year the members of the church of Christ in N.S.W. will determine that their Home Mission funds will reach £500

Any who were not at the meeting can send cash or promises to secretary, R. Steer, "Fernside," 25 Perry St., Marrickville, Sydney.

The meetings of Conference all through were decidedly harmonious and a united feeling predominated. At ten o'clock Conference meetings closed with doxology.

On Easter Monday Conference Picnic was held at a beautiful spot at extreme end of Rose Bay, overlooking Australia's beautiful harbor. The trip in the tram is exceedingly pretty. Bro. C. G. Lawson can vouch for this. Quite a record number attended and seemed to enjoy the company of their kindred in Christ from all parts of New South Wales by joining in various games. We trust our country brethren will return to their homes encouraged to pursue the good fight of faith. We are only sorry that we did not have a greater opportunity to converse with them on the Master's work. The weather all through was glorious, and all seemed thoroughly satisfied. And so ended our Conference proceedings, etc.

R. STEER, Sec.

New South Wales Conference Items.

N.S.W. Conference Delegates mustered largely in morning session.

One church placed some of the younger members on their delegates list.

Some think that only old experienced men should represent churches at Conference. Why?

Because they say weighty and important matters may have to be discussed. Just so!

But sometimes weighty matters are too heavy for the old to lift by themselves. We want the young men to help.

Wisdom may be in the old, but strength is in the young.

Delegates to Conference will bear in mind their responsibility does not end with Conference.

The outlook for churches in N.S.W. is very bright. Why?

Because we see the sons of Bros. Kingsbury, Hunter, Verco, W-bber, Gilmour, Day, Walker and others taking part in Conference.

We look to our elders for advice, to our young for strength.

President's Address, Temperance Report, Foreign Mission Balance Sheet and Letters from churches held over till next week.

## Here and There.

Here a little and there a little.—Isaiah 28: 10.

### Rescue Home Sunday, May 5th.

D. A. Ewers' address is Glenelg, S.A., for the present.

There is a lot of matter left over this week. A little patience will make all right.

W. Burgess spoke at Mooroolbark on Lord's Day, April 7th, morning and evening.

### Rescue Home Sunday, May 5th. A New Century Offering asked from every church.

N.S.W. Conference Secretary would be glad to hear from isolated brethren. His address is R. Steer, "Fernside," 25 Perry-st., Marrickville.

N.S.W. Home Mission treasurer is now J. Stimson, 45 Glebe-road, Glebe, Sydney. We would ask that all moneys be sent direct to treasurer, who will acknowledge same.

Any brethren proposing to visit Sydney at any time and not wishing to go to ordinary lodging houses, send to N.S.W. Conference Secretary with full particulars and stamp for reply. He will do his best.

### Rescue Home Sunday, May 5th. Funds: £20 deficit; £50 needed for re-furnishing; £300 for year's current expenses. 760 cases since opening.

We have now in stock a good supply of "Gospel Light," our bound volume of tracts. It makes a fine volume of gospel literature and contains almost all our tracts yet issued. Price, 2/-; by post, 2/6.

N.S.W. Home Mission Committee held its first meeting on Thursday, 11th April. Will church secretaries in N.S.W. note that regular meetings of Committee will be held on the last Thursday in the month, commencing 25th April.

H. G. Harward is doing well with the Tent Fund, having secured £57 in cash and promises. If you want to save Bro. Harward the trouble of hunting you up, you had better send on your donation at once. His address is 91 McKean-street, North Fitzroy.

At the Conference picnic on Easter Monday two groups were taken by a competent Melbourne artist. These groups are now on view at, and may be obtained from, the Austral Co., post free, 1/6. They are splendid mementos of the finest and largest picnic ever held by the Victorian churches.

We have a number of applications from Melbourne brethren who are prepared to entertain visitors as paying guests during the duke's visit. Any of our readers desiring accommodation of this kind, if they will write to us, we will be glad to arrange for them. Please state what accommodation you require, and the price you are prepared to pay.

A brother who takes a prominent part in church work writes: "I find that I have been taking more papers than I can afford to pay for. I am expected to support the local publications, *Methosa Leader* and *Fraternity*, and must decline the *CHRISTIAN* in the

meantime. With best wishes." But here is a letter of another kind: "Just a line to tell you that the *CHRISTIAN* of February did not reach me. If it never does I shall be sorry, though the one copy of January to I consider worth the year's subscription."

Among the visitors to Sydney who took part in the N.S.W. Conference were—E. Winter, and D. McCallum, from Moree; W. J. Way, from Lismore, P. J. Pond, and Brethren Wright, and Stewart, from Merewether; L. H. Robinson, from Bungawalbyn; and Edwards from Manning River. On Sunday last Bro. McCallum spoke in the morning at Wollahra, and in the evening at Rookwood. Bro. Way spoke at Sydney in the morning, and at Enmore at night, and Bro. Edwards spoke at Sydney in the evening.

On Tuesday the 2nd inst. a social was held in the Petersham chapel to welcome Bro. Colbourne, who is taking up the work there for a time. There was a good attendance, several being present from Enmore and Sydney. Some nice choruses and solos were sung, and short addresses given by the chairman (Bro. Ewers) and Bro. G. P. Jones, P. A. Dickson, W. J. Way, L. A. Williams, and J. Colbourne. The latter presented the chairman with a token of esteem from Petersham brethren in the form of a money gift in a purse. It was a pleasant meeting.

The church at Cheltenham celebrated its anniversary on Monday night last by a tea and public meeting. At the tea there was a large crowd, including a number of visitors from the city. The after meeting, as the tea, was held in the local hall, and was also largely attended. H. Mahon presided. R. W. Tuck read a report, and short addresses were delivered by the Chairman, W. C. Morro, Jas. Johnston, H. Leng, A. Millis and H. G. Harward. R. Judd led the choir, which rendered some appropriate music during the evening. The one drawback, in our judgment, was that the after meeting was not held in the chapel, where there is plenty of light and air, both of which are absent in the hall.

The Sisters' Conference on Monday, April 1st, was the largest and most enthusiastic yet held in Sydney. The Conference is evidently growing in favor among the ladies, and several fresh faces were to be seen both among the listeners and the speakers. The fact that sisters collected £73 for Home Missions, and £51 for Foreign Missions, shows what can be done. It is needless to say that the Conference was harmonious. Our sisters leave warm discussions to the sterner sex. The Conference essay by J. Colbourne, on Wednesday night, was a thoughtful and carefully prepared presentation of the essayist's conception of the hindrances and agencies connected with the future of our Cause in N.S.W., and was listened to by a fair audience. The discussion was brief, and the criticisms on the whole favorable. The General Conference on the Friday was a good one, both as regards attendance and spirit. There were no burning questions to be discussed, and no speeches of exceptional ability were made. Differences of opinion were freely expressed, but everything was said and done in such a kindly spirit, that in no case was any sting left behind. The chief matter for debate was jubilee proposals of the Executive Committee, which with some amendments were accepted, but not with the enthusiasm requisite in order to decided success. It is to be regretted that so much business had to be transacted in one day. It must be increasingly evident that the Conference should extend over Saturday. Many of the reports had to be hurriedly read and adopted, without discussion or comment, in order to rush the business through before tea. The Home Mission meeting was well attended, and the speeches and singing were good. The united choir did good service this year.

The General Conference was one of the best held. It is gratifying to notice that the great object of the Conference, the spread of the gospel, is kept steadily in view, and no time is wasted now over side issues.

N.S.W. Sisters' Seventh Annual Conference, held on Monday, April 1st, a grand success.

Bro. W. J. Way gave a fine stirring address on "Woman and Her Work."

G. T. Walden ably conducted the evening meeting in place of Bro. Ewers, who was unable to be present.

The combined choir conducted by T. C. Walker added considerably to the success of the evening meeting.

Two excellent essays read. "Rest and Recreation," by Sister Rossell, "Women's Influence in the Church and World," by Sister James.

Officers elected for ensuing year: President, Sister Ewers, unopposed; Vice-presidents, Sisters James, Walden, and Jones; Treasurer, Sister Ashwood; Secretary, Sister T. Smith, unopposed.

**SUNDAY, MAY 5th**

is an important date for the

**Rescue Home**

as that is the date of the

**ANNUAL COLLECTION.**

**Please Do Not Forget!**

## Coming Events.

Observe the time of their coming.—Jeremiah 8: 7.

April 21.—Church of Christ, North Richmond. Sunday School Anniversary Services in the Richmond Town Hall. 3 p.m., Bro. F. M. Ludbrook; subject, "Show your colours." Bro. T. Hagger at 7, special singing.

APRIL 21.—Murrumbidgee Church Anniversary Service. Afternoon, 3; Evening, 7. Wednesday, 24th—Tea Meeting, 6.30; Public Meeting, 8 p.m.

April 24.—Wednesday. In the Chapel at 6 p.m. Anniversary Tea (for scholars only). Richmond Town Hall, 7.30 p.m., Distribution of Prizes. First class programme. All come.

April 29.—Swanston-st. Chapel. Farewell to W. S. Houchins, 8 o'clock. Speakers from Melbourne and Suburban Churches. Please keep this night free.

MAY 1.—Farewell to Bro. H. G. Peacock at Stanton-street, Collingwood. Speakers, Bros. Morro, Johnston, Harward and Hagger. Good Singing. Reserve this date.

### FOREIGN MISSION FUND.

W. W. White	..	£1	0	0
Sis. Crosthwaite, Junee, N.S.W.	..	0	10	0
W. and J. Cust, Beulah, Vic.	..	2	2	0
Sunday School, Doncaster, Vic. (B)	..	1	0	0
121 Collins-st.				
39 Leveson-st., Nth. Melbourne.				
				F. M. LUDBROOK, Sec.
				ROBERT LYALL, Treas.

### To Subscribers.

Miss Rose Foster, 1/3; J. H. Asmus, 1/9; S. O'Brien, 2/-; Mrs. Gray, (A. E. Gallop), Miss Rometsch, 2/6; T. B. Hunter, 4/3; Mrs. Clark, Ben Hay, 5/-; J. McDonald, W. A. Ewers, E. Collins, J. Flisher, Dr. A. Cook, F. Gladish, J. Collin, 7/-; J. Treble, 8/-; Mr. Houston, 9/-; J. Leach, 12/6; Mrs. Vipond, 14/-; J. M. Goldsworthy, 15/-; J. H. Green-shields, 20/-; E. A. Riches, H. Franzen, 25/-; W. H. Wright, 27/-; W. Cooper (W. Sando), 27/3; S. Beckwith, 30/-; E. Jeffery, 80/3.

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## From The Field.

The field is the world.—Matthew 13 : 38.

### Victoria.

MELBOURNE (SWANSTON STREET).—Last Lord's day we enjoyed a grand season. There was a large attendance of members and visitors to our Conference. Among the latter were Bro. T. J. Gore, from Adelaide; Sisters Mrs. and Miss Hunter, and Dr. Clement Verco, from Sydney; Dr. and Mrs. Cook, from Bendigo; and many of our delegates from the country churches, whom we were very pleased to see; 162 broke bread. Bro. Gore exhorted the church, and his address was very much enjoyed. In the evening Bro. G. T. Walden was the preacher, and had a large congregation.

R. LYALL, Sec.

April 8.

### New South Wales.

COROWA.—A combined social was held in the chapel last Tuesday, 2nd inst., to bid farewell to Bro. Houchins and to welcome Bro. and Sister Collins who have come to labor with us. The chapel which was nicely decorated, was crowded to the doors, a number remaining outside. Bro. E. J. Waters occupied the chair, and after a hymn had been sung and prayer offered, submitted the following report of work done during the 18 months of Bro. Houchins' ministry.

Report:—During the past 18 months 17 had been immersed and received into fellowship. This is not as large a number as we anticipated when Bro. Houchins was engaged, but taking into consideration the fact of 45 having been immersed and received as members during the previous 12 months, it will be seen that the material to work upon had been greatly lessened. Although not being able to report a very large increase in membership, we are pleased to say the work done by Bro. Houchins has been of a far wider reaching, and more solid character, than anything in the previous history of the church. Perfect peace and harmony has prevailed during the whole of the 18 months, and the spiritual tone has been greatly improved. Bro. Houchins has always been a fearless advocate of truth, and has at every fitting opportunity denounced with no uncertain sound, anything that has had an evil tendency, the good results of which will only be fully known hereafter. During Bro. Houchins' term he has been mainly instrumental in organising the Mission to the Chinese in this district, and the "Christian Literary Society" as critic of which he has been able to impart a vast amount of instruction, which has been highly appreciated by all the members. As Bro. Houchins will be taking up the work of preaching in America, we can confidently say that any church may consider itself fortunate which succeeds in securing his services, as he has proved himself to be not only a successful, but also an able and experienced preacher. We trust the good work so ably commenced and carried on by Bro. Houchins, will go on and prosper under the care and supervision of Bro. Collins.

At conclusion of report a good programme of songs, &c., was gone through, and addresses delivered by Brethren Houchins and Collins.

The chairman then in a few well-chosen remarks, presented Bro. Houchins with a purse of sovereigns subscribed by the members of the church, the Literary Society, and Chinese Class. Bro. Houchins in responding, thanked all those who had made the present, and said that both Mrs. Houchins and himself felt the parting with friends in Corowa more than any place they had previously left. Refresh-

ments were then handed round, and a successful meeting brought to a close.

April 8.

E. J. W.

### Queensland.

ROMA.—Our services on Lord's day were of a cheerful character. We had the pleasure of giving a reception welcome to our Sister Mrs. Waldron, sen. Many of the readers of this paper will be glad to learn that the conversion of this aged couple means the conversion of a vineyard, and some other things to follow. Our outdoor meeting at night was well attended, and good attention given to the address. In the chapel we had also a good audience. The brave-hearted band of workers are cheered with the idea that the labor is not all in vain. The weekly visit of the AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN is looked forward to with great interest here. I think it will gratify you to know that there is some self-denial exercised here to enable the A.C. to be made a means of blessing to souls.

April 2.

ROBERT C. GILMOUR.

### South Australia.

YORK.—After the mid-week service the choir tendered a social to Sister M. Campbell, sister of our evangelist, who is leaving on a visit to W.A. Bro. H. E. Harsell has been appointed evangelist to the church at Strathalbyn, in the Southern District. Bro. Harsell is from Brethren Gore and Rankine's students' class held at Grote-street. On Lord's day evening Bro. Campbell delivered an able address from Luke 24 : 34. Meetings continue good.

April 8.

T. BURT.

HINDMARSH.—We have just held our quarterly family gathering as a church, transacting its necessary business, and holding sweet and profitable conversation together. Our meeting was presided over by Deacon Bro. J. J. Lee, and we are pleased to testify to its cordial and happy character throughout. This is as it should be, and we trust it may long continue.

The church report was pleasing to us all, recording the addition of 12 by faith and baptism, and one restored. One sister, Annie Daly, has been called home to enter her rest, and several have removed to other districts, transfers having been granted them.

Many of our loved ones have been laid aside with sickness, and are still unable to attend the worship of God's house. We rejoice to say a few have been restored to us and to their work for the Lord. Amongst these we mention our aged Bro. W. Brooker, who recently was able to lead our thanksgiving at the meeting for worship. The treasurer who ever views the financial position hopefully, however dreary its outlook, was able with a merry twinkle in his eye, to rejoice over a surplus. Many thanks are due to Bro. Doley for his many years of service as treasurer.

The Foreign Mission work is doing its part, and the president recorded God's goodness in enabling the committee to meet its financial requirements as they occur, although sometimes evil forebodings prevail which impels us to the throne of grace, there to find our God ever faithful. The Building Fund collectors continue effectually to accomplish their work, the incubus of this debt being slowly but effectively removed. We now actually are indebted in this particular only £212.

A verbal report of the Sunday School was rendered by the superintendent, which foreshadowed a hopeful future.

A very pleasing recommendation came from the officers, and was moved as a resolution by Bro. A.

Glastonbury, to the effect "That as our finances are improved we do hereby increase the stipend of our beloved evangelist, to take effect at the close of his present year's service." Many brethren spoke of the good qualities of Bro. Pittman and his true helpmeet, Sister Pittman, expressing pleasure in recommending such an increase, which was enthusiastically carried. Bro. Pittman thankfully replied, and congratulated the church on its prosperity, more especially its spiritual outlook, craving the true, loyal, and energetic support of every member in the great work which lays before us.

An excellent paper was read by the evangelist, on "The Duties of Elders and Deacons." The discussion of which was held over until next quarterly meeting. The paper will be published in *The People's Friend*, our own local paper.

At this stage of the meeting, Bro. James Weeks, as senior acting Elder, on behalf of the church presented Brethren Geo. Maggs, H. Sharpels, and H. Riddell (the two former as late leaders of the Praise part of our worship, the latter, our late secretary), with a beautiful volume each of the "Sacred Art," or the "Bible in Picture and Story." Within the covers of each volume had been beautifully inscribed in illuminated characters, by Bro. Fred. Milton, the following text:—"Presented by the Members of the Church of Christ, Robert-street, Hindmarsh, as a token of their appreciation of faithful services rendered for many years."

Each brother feelingly and suitably replied, bringing to a close a meeting which will linger in the memories of the brotherhood for many days to come.

April 4.

A. G.

YORK.—The Sisters of the York Dorcas Society held their first annual meeting on Wednesday afternoon, April 3rd. Delegates from Grote-st., Norwood, North Adelaide and Unley were present with greetings; also greetings were sent from sisters at Glenelg. W. G. L. Campbell presided. T. J. Ford was present. The meeting opened with singing, and Sister Henshaw of Kermodest., N.A., led in prayer. The Secretary, Sister Burt, gave a good report of the progress of the society during the year, showing the number on the roll to be eleven, with an average attendance of six. The society has worked well during the year, having made 53 garments besides helping homes, and parcels have been sent out to those in need. Also on Indian Famine day 42 garments were made and a parcel of 7 sent to the dorcas. These were handed to the Foreign Missionary Committee for India's poor. A very pleasant afternoon was spent.

April 8th.

M. BURT.

### New Zealand.

MATAURA.—We are glad to report that after Bro. J. J. Franklyn's address last night (March 31st), two young men came boldly forward and made the good confession. By the spirit of earnestness and resoluteness shown, we have no hesitation in saying that they fully counted the cost. May they prove faithful to the Master, is our fervent prayer.

The cause here is looking healthy. The meetings are large and interesting, and the harvest is in the near future.

The church is desirous of retaining Bro. Franklyn. A meeting is announced to consider ways and means. Doubtless with God's blessing, and the active co-operation of the church many will become obedient to the truth.

J. T.

KAITANGATA.—We have just had a visit from Bro. T. Mathison, from Dunedin, who spoke on Lord's day morning and evening. At the close of the evening

four confessed Christ, and were baptised into his name the following evening.

March 21.

EDWIN ROGERS.

NELSON.—On Tuesday last our S.S. anniversary took place. The children were entertained at tea, and in the evening we held a public meeting, presided over by Bro. Clapham. A very pleasant time was spent, a programme of 25 items being gone through. While all the teachers and elder scholars worked well, special thanks are due to Sister Knapp, who, though just recovering from illness, managed to prepare an excellent programme; and to her energy in a great measure was due the success of the meeting. After the distribution of prizes, a most enjoyable evening was brought to a close. On Sunday evening last a "Children's Service" was held, when Bro. Taylor from the Thames gave a splendid address.

April 4th.

ELSIE CLAPHAM.

West Australia.

SUBIACO.—Beg to report five confessions Sunday night last. We shall be glad to receive donations to help build vestries and extend building.

April 4.

G. PAYNE.

Obituary.

To live is Christ: and to die is gain.—Phil. 1: 21.

EASTON.—On the 23rd February our esteemed Bro. George Easton was suddenly called from time to eternity. He confessed Christ under Bro. Swain's preaching, on the night of June 5th, 1892, and was received into fellowship (by the writer), on the 19th June, 1892, and from that time onward his interest in spiritual matters was very strong. At the time of his death he held the following positions (and filled them to the honour and glory of the Master whom he loved), viz.:—Deacon, doorkeeper, vice-superintendent of the Lord's day school, and president of the Band of Hope. Bro. Saunders saw him just a little while before he died, and he was speaking of going home to Jesus in a way that gives us an assurance that "it is well with him." He passed peacefully away in the presence of his wife and family. He was only 48 years of age, and he leaves a wife and eight children to mourn his loss. All the children of age are members of the church. One was received into fellowship on the day of our brother's death. We committed his remains to the grave on the Tuesday following. Bro. Saunders held services both at the home and grave. A goodly number of relatives and friends were present, and seemed impressed by the kindly words spoken and the warning given. We sorrow not as those who have no hope, because we believe that we shall all meet at home in the morning. We know that our Heavenly Father will comfort the widow and orphans and help our sister to bear the burden placed upon her, and we pray that the Father's richest blessing will remain upon her. We rejoice because they can say that "Death is swallowed up in victory."

"Sleep on beloved, sleep, and take thy rest:  
We loved thee well, but Jesus loved thee best."  
Good night.

Footscray.

H.H.S.

HALL.—It is with sorrow that we report the death of our esteemed Bro. Thomas Hall, who departed this life on March 14th at the ripe age of 79, nine years over the allotted time. Our brother was for many years connected with the Presbyterian Church, but late in life came to know the way of the Lord more

fully, and yielded submission to his Master's command. "Repent and be baptised for the remission of sins." His end was certainly peaceful. Our brother leaves a wife, a sister, and large family to mourn their loss but rejoice in his gain. Bro. Dickson preached a memorial service to a large congregation on March 17. Sydney. F.M.

Acknowledgments.

The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts.—Haggai 2: 8.

PETERSHAM BUILDING FUND.

I have to acknowledge with sincere thanks the following amounts since last report:—

C. F. Field, Condobolin	..	£3	0	0	
W. Winter, Moree	..	..	1	0	0
P. A. Dickson, Sydney	..	..	3	0	0
Bro. Hamill, Enmore	..	..	3	0	0
D. A. Ewers, Petersham	..	..	5	0	0
J. Hunter, Enmore	..	..	5	0	0
Mrs. James, Petersham	..	..	1	0	0
S. Denford, Petersham	..	..	2	0	0
Mrs. J. Owen, Petersham	..	..	1	0	0
F. Newby, Sydney	..	..	2	0	0
P. F. Ewers, Doncaster	..	..	1	0	0
J. Tully, Doncaster	..	..	1	0	0
H. Cooke, Gravesend	..	..	5	0	0
C. Moree	..	..	0	10	0
Dr. Robertson, Enmore	..	..	1	1	0
J. T. Hambly, Petersham	..	..	1	10	0
J. Munro, Petersham	..	..	1	1	0
B. Griffiths, Petersham	..	..	0	10	6
Mrs. Braten, Petersham	..	..	1	0	0
R. Martin, Petersham	..	..	0	2	6
J. T. Hunter, Enmore	..	..	0	10	0
Mr. Lockley, (per Miss Walker)	..	..	1	1	0
Sydney Butler, Mungindi	..	..	1	0	0
Mrs. Wortley, Petersham	..	..	0	9	0
Mr. Trevathan, Petersham	..	..	2	0	0
J. H. Colmer, Breeza	..	..	0	5	0
B. Macpherson, Petersham	..	..	0	2	6
Mrs. Macpherson, Petersham	..	..	0	5	0
Madame Voight	..	..	1	10	0
J. Stimson, Sydney	..	..	1	0	0
W. Benson, Ballarat	..	..	0	10	0
A. Grant, Toolamba	..	..	0	5	0
Mrs. Piper, Petersham	..	..	0	5	0
Miss Hodgkinson, Petersham	..	..	0	10	0
Mrs. J. Thompson, Petersham	..	..	1	0	0
J. Pearce, jr., Petersham	..	..	0	10	0
Mr. James, Petersham	..	..	1	0	0
W. R. Rowles, Woollahra	..	..	1	0	0
Mrs. Walker, Petersham	..	..	1	1	0
Miss A. Walker, Petersham	..	..	1	0	0
A. Baker, Sydney	..	..	0	10	0
G. P. Jones, Sydney	..	..	1	0	0
Dorcas Class, Petersham	..	..	2	2	0
Dorcas Class (proceeds, Anniversary Tea)	..	..	7	12	0
Collected by Miss A. Walker in small sums	..	..	7	2	6
Special Church Collection	..	..	4	5	0
Balance Collected at Church Social	..	..	0	5	0
Bank Interest	..	..	0	6	8
Previously acknowledged	..	..	206	13	6
Total	..	..	£283	15	2

NOTE.—A suitable site has been purchased, and about £14 balance remains. About £60 more is promised. We require more before we can build. The old property is not sold. We would like to build at once if we had the means, and until we do, progress must be very slow. Until further notice all donations are to be sent to J. Colbourne, Silver-street, Marrickville, N.S.W.

April 6.

D. A. EWERS.

RESCUE HOME SUNDAY, May 5th. We plead for a New Century Collection from EVERY CHURCH. The two Homes need partly re-furnishing, for which an extra £50 is required. £300 must be raised for ordinary expenses. The average number of inmates for the year is 25. Let individuals and churches combine to make an effort to raise this sum.

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