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## Victorian Conference, 1902.

### SISTERS' CONFERENCE.

The meeting of the sisters this year was a great success, though the weather on Wednesday was very wet and boisterous. An extended report of this meeting will appear next week.

### TEMPERANCE DEMONSTRATION.

The heavy storm of wind and rain on Thursday night practically spoiled the Temperance Demonstration, so those in charge determined to repeat the programme on last Tuesday night, which was done; a short report of the meeting will appear next week.

The Conference was opened at 9 o'clock on Friday, March 28th, with a Prayer and Praise Service, at which there was a goodly number present. A. J. Saunders read Dan. 2: 36-45, and C. R. Howard Jno. 3: 1-8 and Rev. 12: 10-12. W. C. Morro, B.A., conducted a Bible study on "The Kingdom," which was highly appreciated, and at the close a vote of thanks was extended to Bro. Morro.

At 10 o'clock W. C. Morro, President, took the chair, and the business of the Conference was proceeded with. The churches at Richmond South and Hopetoun applied for admission into the Union, which application was granted. Letters of congratulation were read from South Australia, West Australia, New South Wales, Queensland, Tasmania, and G. B. Moysey.

The minutes of last Conference were read and confirmed.

### ROLL OF REPRESENTATIVES.

ASCOT VALE: W. Brown, F. W. Martin  
BRIGHTON: D. Parker, — Brotchie  
BENDIGO: G. Collins, J. Southwick, W. Peck  
BAYSWATER: Thos. Clements  
BRIM: W. W. White  
BALLARAT WEST: D. Reid, Charles Morris  
BAIRNSDALE: A. Millis  
BERWICK: E. P. Hilbrich, G. Funston  
BARKER'S CREEK: R. G. Cameron, J. Hogarth  
BET BET: J. H. Stevens  
COSGROVE: J. C. Skinner, F. G. Dunn  
CHELTENHAM: H. Mahon, E. T. Penny, W. H. Barnett  
COLLINGWOOD: B. Cox, P. Conning, W. Wetenhall  
CARLTON, NORTH: T. M. Ghent, — Scott  
COLAC: M. McLellan  
DRUMMOND: T. Lewis  
DONCASTER: F. W. Greenwood, Geo. Petty, J. Tully  
DUNOLLY: P. B. McMaster  
ECHUCA: T. H. Scambler

FITZROY: H. Swain, J. McGregor, T. J. Cook  
FITZROY NORTH: J. W. Baker, J. McMillan, M. W. Green, T. Gole, — Steele  
FOOTSCRAY: J. Davidson, H. Carter  
GEELONG: H. Christopher, G. H. Browne  
GALAQUIL: Chas. Howard  
HAWTHORN: W. Finger, J. A. Palmer, R. C. Edwards, W. H. Bardwell  
HORSHAM: R. W. Tuck  
HOPETOUN: W. Burgess  
KANIVA: H. Leng, H. G. Harward  
LYGON STREET (Carlton): F. Payne, W. C. Craigie, J. McColl, W. C. Thurgood, C. Hardie  
LAKE ROWAN: C. W. Mitchell  
LILLIMUR: B. J. Kemp  
MELBOURNE (Swanston-street): J. A. Davies, C. G. Lawson, James Johnston  
MELBOURNE SOUTH: T. Smith, J. Jones  
MELBOURNE NORTH: McCance, W. Thomson, W. McMaster  
MERRIGUM: J. L. Robinson  
MEREDITH: S. Boyd, A. McKay  
MARYBOROUGH: W. D. Little, R. Lyall  
MYSTIC PARK: E. Griffiths  
MOOROOLBARK: E. T. Jeeves, D. Darling  
MALVERN: B. Huntsman, E. Ryall  
MITCHIE: A. B. Maston  
MURRUMBEENA: C. Newham  
NEWMARKET: John Morris, J. Hatty  
PORT FAIRY: J. Barnacle, C. Johnson  
POLKEMETT: A. W. Connor  
PRAHRAN: W. Brown, J. Pittman, — Smith  
RICHMOND NORTH: E. Fisher, J. Salisbury, A. J. Hagger, Thos. Hagger, T. Darnley  
RICHMOND SOUTH: P. J. Pond, G. Nicholls  
SURREY HILLS: W. Wilson, A. E. Varcoe  
ST. KILDA: F. W. Clarey, T. M. Davis  
SOUTH YARRA: D. A. Lewis, — McArthur  
SHEPPARTON: A. Grant  
TOOLAMBA: F. McClean  
WEDDERBURN: J. Treble, C. McDonald  
WILLIAMSTOWN: E. M. Hall  
YANDO: W. C. Morro, B.A.  
YANAC NORTH: D. McCallum, H. G. Maston

The President, W. C. Morro, accorded a hearty welcome to visitors from other States.

W. Charlick, in response to the welcome accorded to him, said that he desired to convey to the Conference the fraternal greetings of the churches of South Australia. He felt satisfied from the large number of delegates he saw before him that much good would result from the deliberations of the Conference.

Percy Pittman said that in being present with the brethren here he felt that he was

at home. He desired to convey the fraternal greetings of the North Adelaide church, and to join with Bro. Charlick in expressing the best wishes of the churches in S. Australia.

J. E. Thomas also expressed his gladness at being present, and trusted that the Conference meetings would be abundantly successful.

Bro. and Sister Walker, of Wellington, N.Z., and D. C. McCallum and F. Collins, of N.S.W., were also present. A motion was carried inviting all visiting brethren and sisters to take any part in the Conference they might feel disposed.

The Chairman, in delivering his presidential address, said that he had proposed to offer some ideas in regard to the improvement of the churches in Victoria. He had, however, changed his mind to some extent, as he did not wish to occupy too much of the time of the Conference. He desired to congratulate the Conference on this its second meeting in the new century, and on the progress that had been made. Comparatively speaking, that progress was satisfactory, but not sufficient to make us sit down with contentment. There were four ideas which we required to have before us in connection with our work—(1) Extension, (2) Consolidation, (3) Purity, (4) Unity. In reference to the first he felt that we must push out with greater energy and enthusiasm. The tent work would help materially in this direction. As regards consolidation, he urged the drawing together of our forces to show a solid front to the world. We should be consolidated in regard to the principles which we advocated. We had nothing to be ashamed of. They were principles which were founded on truth. Next, he would urge that we should seek after purity—purity of thought, speech and action. He was hopeful that this purity would be promoted by the meetings of the Conference. Lastly, he would insist on the necessity of unity—not merely the promotion of unity in a general sense, but of that closer unity which should prevail among ourselves. He hoped to see this unity obtaining in the Conference and throughout the year.

### Executive Committee's Report.

#### I—SISTERS' CONFERENCE.

The sisters are still furnishing good aid in the advancement of the churches through their various agencies. Practical assistance was given to many throughout the Dorcas Societies, while Temperance and

Home and Foreign Mission work find ardent workers in the sisters. The Home Mission Funds have benefited through them to the extent of £92 16s. 0d. As a Conference we are under obligations to them for the excellent provision they make during our annual meetings, and our very best thanks should be accorded to them.

Adopted.

## 2—FINANCES.

A reference to the Treasurer's statement will show that we have a credit balance of £380 14s. 1d. It must be remembered that last year we had a credit of £297 to begin with, so that during the year we only received £83 more than we have actually expended. The surplus would not have been so large had we been able to secure the services of suitable workers. The satisfactory state of the finances has enabled the Home Missionary Committee to secure a valuable and enthusiastic worker for the Home fields, which we are sure will meet with the hearty approval of the Conference. We are very pleased to report the increasing interest that the churches are taking in Mission work. This was exemplified in the generous response to the Annual Appeal for a special collection. The sum of £250 was asked for and was more than realised.

A bequest from our late Sister Stevenson, of the church at Prahran, amounting to £45 15s., was received through her executor, Bro. J. Pittman. This amount was placed to the credit of the "Bequest Fund a/c," at fixed deposit. The total amount now at fixed deposit is £228 18s. 3d.

J. Pittman said that he was pleased to see that the finances were in so satisfactory a condition. He would rather have seen the money expended in useful work, but he understood that the difficulty was in procuring laborers. He felt that our great need was in this last direction, and hoped that our young men would be encouraged to come out.

J. A. Davies, in reply to a question by F. W. Clarey, explained the paragraph relating to bequests. J. W. Baker thought that as we had so large a balance in hand more consideration should be given to the salaries of the preachers in the field, as he thought some of them were underpaid. A. W. Connor said that he thought it only right to say that while the Committee had during the depression reduced the salaries of its preachers, it had with returning prosperity been gradually increasing them. After further discussion by C. W. Mitchell, R. McCance, W. Burgess, E. Griffiths and J. Johnston, on the motion of M. W. Green it was resolved:—That this Conference learns with pleasure of the treatment of the preaching brethren by the H. M. Committee in increasing their salaries as their funds admitted, and trusts that the same considerate course will be pursued in the future as the funds may allow.

## 3—STATISTICS.

The total number of churches returned this year is 96, with a total membership of 5776, an increase of 239.

The gains are:—By Faith and Baptism, 573, By Letter, 272, Formerly Immersed, 74, Restoration, 19; Total, 938.

The losses are:—By Letter, 279, Death, 57, Removal and Revision of Roll, 363; Total, 699. Increase, 239.

There are 63 Sunday Schools, with 5167 scholars, and 492 teachers; an increase of 216 scholars and 22 teachers. 195 were added to the church from the Sunday School, 13 more than last year.

The adoption of the above clause was moved by H. Swain, who in doing so, analysed the figures set forth, and expressed the opinion that they were not so satisfactory as some seemed to think, and drew special attention to the large leakage that was taking place. The motion was spoken to by T. Hagger, H. G. Harward, R. G. Cameron, J. Pittman, D. Hall, and then carried.

Adjournment for lunch.

## AFTERNOON SESSION.

### Home Missionary Committee's Report.

The following is a synopsis of work done by the various agents of the Committee during the past Conference year.

#### 1—G. H. BROWNE

Commenced his labors for the Committee on May 23, 1901, working in Geelong and Meredith principally, and holding some preaching meetings in Beremboke. During the ten months there have been fourteen baptisms, and one hundred and seven addresses have been delivered. Not much progress has been made in Geelong, but Meredith has made some real advancement. The brethren there expect soon to occupy a building of their own. In his annual report Bro. Browne asks consideration for this circuit during the coming year.

G. H. Browne supplemented this report by a ten minutes' address. He said that the work at Geelong was extremely difficult, and required a great deal of hard work to put it on a satisfactory footing. He thought it would be wise to let Bro. Harward pay a visit to conduct his Tent Mission for a short while. As for the church at Meredith he could say it was a young and vigorous church, and had good prospects for the future. Preaching meetings had been held at Beremboke, from which good results were expected. He found in his work that tracts published by A. B. Maston were very helpful in making known our principles.

H. Christopher could bear testimony to the truth of the remarks made by Browne. He was instructed to say that the members of the church were anxious to co-operate with the Committee in the carrying on of the work. Bro. McKay said that on behalf of the church at Meredith he thanked them for the help given to it by the Missionary Committee. He was satisfied that if the church was faithful to its principles, it would grow in numbers as well as in grace.

#### 2—W. BURGESS

Spent two months at the beginning of the year in the Echuca Circuit, where six were added by obedience. Several Sundays were spent at Emerald, where three were baptised; the rest of the year being spent in the Mallee District. There are five churches in the circuit, Brim, Galaquill, Warmur West, Maidavale and Hopetoun, the latter having been organised during the year. In this district there have been seven additions during the year. Bro. Burgess reports the churches in good working order, and the prospects from a spiritual, financial, and numerical standpoint are encouraging. We regret to say that we are losing Bro. Burgess' services, he having decided upon going to one of the American Colleges to complete his studies. We wish him every success, and can promise him a hearty welcome on his return.

W. Burgess said that Home Missionaries went into the field with God's message. They had this message to convey to the world and to the church. So far as the churches in the Mallee District were concerned, he could say that they were in a good condition. He was pleased to say the district was now practically self-supporting. The want of the district was more laborers. They not only wanted more help in this direction, but they wanted the prayers of the brethren. More things were wrought by prayer than men dreamt of. In reference to the work of preaching, he would say that not only were preachers wanted, but men who were trained for the work. This was the conclusion his experience had led him to come to. He had felt the need of training, and would urge that

better provision should be made for this.

W. W. White said that it was with great pleasure that he came before them again to thank them for the help which had been rendered. They had been pleased with the labors of Bro. Burgess, who was respected and liked in the district. They were sorry that he was leaving for America, and sincerely hoped that the Conference would send them a brother to take his place as early as possible.

#### 3—R. G. CAMERON

Started work in what may be called the Barker's Creek and Castlemaine District immediately after last Conference. Regular gospel meetings have been held at Barker's Creek and Castlemaine, while special meetings have been conducted at Barker's Creek, Castlemaine, Newstead, Drummond, and South Ravenswood. In August last Thos. Hagger, in co-operation with R. G. Cameron, conducted a twelve days' mission, and at the time at which this report is made up these two brethren are conducting a Tent Mission in Castlemaine. During the eleven months which this report covers R. G. Cameron has delivered 84 gospel addresses, and has spoken at 42 morning meetings, and there have been twenty baptisms in the district and two have been restored.

R. G. Cameron said that the district in which he labored was not like the others, a district of magnificent distances. It covered only an area of eighteen miles, and comprised six old established churches. He had labored principally at Barker's Creek and Castlemaine. In the latter place special services had been held. Bro. T. Hagger and himself had conducted a Tent Mission; this extended over 34 days, and was very successful, the result being 31 confessions. The thanks of the brethren in the district were due to Bro. Hagger and the church at North Richmond for the unselfish help they had rendered. He was of opinion that the Conference should send a preacher for another year to follow up the work which had been so well begun.

Bro. Hogarth said that the Barker's Creek church owed a debt of gratitude to the Conference which they could not hope to repay. They hoped that the churches at Barker's Creek and Castlemaine would co-operate for the future in carrying on the good work.

At this stage, at the suggestion of H. G. Harward, the Doxology was sung as a thanksgiving for the success at Castlemaine.

#### 4—A. W. CONNOR

Has been faithfully labouring in Horsham, his old district, since last Conference, though for many reasons the results have not been so encouraging. Regular preaching services have been carried on at Minyip, Dunmunkle, Mount Pleasant, Horsham and Polkemmet. During the year Bro. Connor has spoken at fifty one meetings for worship, and has conducted one hundred and fifty gospel meetings and Bible Classes. Eight have been added by primary obedience, while two baptised believers, and two that have been restored were received into the fellowship of the churches.

A. W. Connor said that though the results of this year's work were not as satisfactory as they might be, there were indications of good results in the future that would warrant a continuance of effort in the district. Like other districts it was recovering from the past and was now gradually making headway. The district during the past year had suffered much loss on account of removals. He was of opinion that in large towns like Horsham a concentrated effort should be made once a year. They proposed therefore to unite their forces once a year and raise funds for carrying on the tent mission in the principal centre of the Wimmera District.

He was of opinion that they had no need to be ashamed of their plea—it was a grand one, and deserved the grandest efforts.

Robert Lyall pointed out that the removals from which the country districts suffered, while a loss to them, were a gain to other places.

5—E. GRIFFITHS

Has an immense area over which he has to travel in the Wedderburn Circuit. During the year he has travelled in the discharge of his duty 5318 miles by horse, gig, bicycle and rail. Bro. Griffiths has visited and held meetings at Wedderburn, Fernihurst, Yando, Minindie, Kerang East, Murrabit Myall, Mystic Part, Mumble Plains, Fairfield and Yarrowalla and on one occasion crossed into New South Wales on a visit to some isolated brethren there. During the year Bro. Griffiths has paid 486 visits and delivered 184 addresses, and nine have been baptised, while one baptised believer has been added. The evangelist says that the outlook is hopeful and promises better than any time during his work in the Circuit.

E. Griffiths said that during the early part of the year he had visited Thorpdale, in Gippsland, and had the pleasure of baptising two people on that occasion. He would recommend this as a field which the Committee might bear in mind. In reference to the Wedderburn District, he could say that it was a district of magnificent distances. From his report it would be seen that during the year he had travelled over 5,000 miles. It took him a month to get round his circuit. He would say, however, that it was a district that deserved to be helped. It was gradually approaching the self-supporting stage, and the time was coming when two preachers might well be supported. This was the ideal they had before them, and in a short time they hoped to realise it.

Bro. McDonald said he endorsed the remarks of Bro. Griffiths, and he hoped that the Conference would send an evangelist to labour during the current year in the Wedderburn district.

J. Trebble said that he thought if the churches acted up to their responsibility, they would not require to come down to Melbourne to ask the brethren to help them.

D. C. McCallum spoke of the good work that was being done in Moree, N.S.W., by a brother who was once a member of the Wedderburn church.

6—H. LENG

Has been at work in the Kaniva Circuit for some years. His report of the last year is hopeful. He has visited and held services at Kaniva, South Lillimur, North Yanac, Lawes, Yanac-a-Yanac, Dinyarrak, Border Town, Carew and Wamboony. Bro. Leng has given 180 addresses and reports 23 additions by faith and obedience, and two restorations, with many others interested and almost persuaded. The churches are working splendidly together, resulting in large and interesting meetings at almost all the preaching places, Kaniva specially being much strengthened. The temperance work has received some attention during the year, over 70 pledges having been taken and three Temperance Societies formed. A Bible School has been started in South Lillimur, conducted by W. McCallum and John Thacker. The churches in the district have been much helped during the year by visits from J. G. Price, A. W. Connor, W. G. Oram, H. D. Smith and A. B. Maston.

H. Leng said that it gave him very great pleasure to speak to the Conference about his work. He believed that the brethren he spoke to loved Home Mission work, and because of this he felt he had their sympathies. His heart was set on the work of Home Missions. He thought it would have done the Melbourne brethren good to have been present at the Conference of churches

in the Kaniva District. This Conference had been the means of doing much good. This satisfactory result was largely owing to the great assistance rendered them by Bro. Harward. During the year they had held a number of temperance meetings, and by these they had been able to get hold of the young people. It was their earnest desire to get a second preacher, but whether they succeeded in this or not they intended to work enthusiastically for the winning of souls.

H. G. Harward spoke in reference to the Conference at Kaniva, and said that he never attended a Conference at which he witnessed greater spirituality. He could testify to the esteem in which Bro. Leng was held in the district, and that the brethren there wanted him back.

F. W. Greenwood said that the work done by Bren. Leng and Connor for temperance had been the means of strengthening the hands of the Temperance Committee, and their reports gave them great encouragement.

7—T. H. SCAMBLER.

Took up the work in the Echuca Circuit two months after last Conference, on the transfer of W. Burgess to the Mallee. Bro. Scambler has preached as opportunity offered at Echuca, Echuca Village Settlement, Runnymede E., Ballendella, Wharparilla, Kyabram, Merrigum, Cooma, Toolamba, Shepparton and Cosgrove. During the ten months, in the various places, 13 people have been baptised (and including six as a result of Bro. Burgess' labours, 19 in all in this district). The great distances travelled by the evangelist prevents his giving much time to any one place, but notwithstanding the work in the entire district is hopeful. Some help has been rendered to the district by Bro. H. Mahon, who paid them a visit during their Conference in February.

8—SUMMARY.

The following is a summary of the foregoing reports:—Additions by faith and baptism, 103; restoration, 6; formerly immersed, 6; total, 115.

T. H. Scambler said he thought that the Echuca District was the most difficult of all to work. A great many of the members in Echuca, for instance, lived at long distances from the church, and this made the work harder for the preacher. Echuca was the principal town of the district, and in it the other religious bodies were well represented. In order that progress should be made in it, the preacher required to spend more time there. He would advocate the concentration of more effort in the principal centres, so as to make them a source of strength to the outlying districts. He believed that there was a good future in store for the district.

H. Mahon said that he had attended the Conference held in the Echuca District, and therefore felt an interest in it. He would recommend the Committee to send another preacher to the district who could make his headquarters in Shepparton. He thought that the time was ripe for making a great effort in this district.

A. Grant said that Bro. Scambler's labors in the district were highly appreciated, and he was instructed to say that they desired the Committee to send him back to them.

9—TENT WORK.

In accordance with instructions received from last Conference, a Tent Fund was opened, and (mainly owing to the energy of Bro. Harward) sufficient money was raised to purchase a tent and furnishings. The total amount received was £70 10s.; expenditure (including tent, seats and lighting apparatus), £54 12s.;

balance to credit of Tent Fund, £15 18s. An excellent beginning was made at Bendigo, where a four weeks' mission resulted in 104 additions. Then at Fitzroy with 30 additions, South Richmond with 10 additions, and at time of writing this report the Castlemaine mission is in progress, with 7 additions up to date. It will therefore be seen that tent work is a power for good, as through its medium some are reached who do not go to a chapel building. Special thanks are due to the churches at Fitzroy, Swanston-st., and North Richmond, for the unselfish spirit manifested by the giving of their evangelists' services; also to Bros. Harward, Johnston and Hagger. In this connection, Bro. Morro should also be thanked, as he conducted special meetings at Brunswick and Newmarket, though not using the tent.

H. G. Harward said that at the last Conference he obtained promises of assistance for the purchase of the Tent, and he desired to close his responsibility and hand over his list. But before doing so he would intimate that any who desired to have fellowship in the work could still have their names placed on the historic document.

Jas. Johnston called attention to the satisfactory results accruing from the Tent Mission during the short time it had been in existence.

M. W. Green spoke of the difficulty of one brother carrying on the Tent Mission, and suggested that help should be given him by other preachers.

On the motion of J. Trebble it was resolved that a vote of thanks be given to Bro. Harward for his efforts in securing the Tent in which to carry on the Mission.

10—FUTURE WORK.

For a number of years the Committee has felt that a splendid work could be done by a good preacher in the general field. The principal difficulty has been to find the preacher. The Committee now, however, has entered into an engagement with H. G. Harward, who will enter upon his labors in this capacity at the beginning of the new Conference year. Bro. Harward's duty will be to hold special meetings in old and new fields, either in country or in towns, using the mission tent where advisable, assisting in special efforts with any of the churches that may need his services, advancing the interests in all departments of church work, such as Sunday Schools, mission enterprise, prayer meetings and kindred work. The Committee look to the churches of Victoria for their sympathetic co-operation in this new departure, which we confidently expect to see crowned with glorious results.

The present districts are still desirous of a continuance of the help of the Conference, and we think it would be wise to continue such help. We also have had appeals from other places during the year, but were unable to undertake any new fields. Possibly the incoming Committee may be in a better position to entertain such appeals.

ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS.

Number of meetings held, 14. W. C. Morro, 13; James Johnston, 12; J. A. Davies, 14; M. McLellan, 13; R. Lyall, 13; H. G. Harward, 11; Thos. Hagger, 11; F. G. Dunn, 13; A. Millis, 10; A. B. Maston, 11; W. C. Thurgood, 12; W. Wilson, 7.

On behalf of the Home Missionary Committee,  
W. C. MORRO, B.A., PRESIDENT.  
M. McLELLAN, SECRETARY.

H. Swain congratulated the Conference on securing the services of Bro. Harward for work in the general field. He thought the work mapped out for him was too much for one man to undertake, and suggested that another brother be associated with him.

The following brethren also spoke to the question, viz.:—J. McGregor, M. W. Green, F. M. Ludbrook, H. Mahon, J. Johnston, J. C. Skinner, and H. G. Harward.

At this stage J. Pittman read the obituary list, which was listened to in profound silence, after which he led the meeting in prayer.

## TREASURER'S STATEMENT.—VICTORIAN MISSION FUND.

RECEIPTS.	EXPENDITURE.
Balance, 1901 .. .. .	Salaries— R. G. Cameron .. .. .
Collection at Conference, 1901 .. .. .	A. W. Connor .. .. .
Transferred from Bequest Fund .. .. .	G. H. Browne .. .. .
Estate late Sister Jane Stevenson, per Bro. J. Pittman .. .. .	H. Leng .. .. .
Annual Collections .. .. .	E. Griffiths .. .. .
Contributions from Churches .. .. .	W. Burgess .. .. .
Individual Contributions .. .. .	T. H. Scambler .. .. .
Conference Fees .. .. .	M. McLellan .. .. .
From Churches for Evangelistic Services—	C. F. Hawkins .. .. .
<i>Kaniva District—</i>	
Kaniva .. .. .	962 15 3
Carew .. .. .	45 15 0
Lillimur .. .. .	7 15 0
Mitchie .. .. .	5 0 0
Yanac North .. .. .	42 10 6
Border Town .. .. .	11 15 0
<i>Horsham District—</i>	5 13 6
Dunmunkle .. .. .	5 3 6
Polkemmett .. .. .	3 3 0
Horsham .. .. .	1 9 6
<i>Mallee District—</i>	1 4 7
Conference of Mallee Churches, including Brim, Galaquil, Warmur West, Hopetoun, Maidavale .. .. .	326 12 7
<i>Wedderburn District—</i>	54 1 6
Wedderburn .. .. .	380 14 1
Kerang East .. .. .	
Mystic Park .. .. .	
Murrabit .. .. .	
Yando .. .. .	
<i>Echuca District—</i>	
Echuca .. .. .	
Shepparton .. .. .	
Kyabram .. .. .	
Cosgrove .. .. .	
Merrigum .. .. .	
Toolamba .. .. .	
Ballendella .. .. .	
Church, Barker's Creek .. .. .	
<i>Geelong &amp; Meredith District—</i>	
Geelong .. .. .	
Meredith .. .. .	
Church, Malvern .. .. .	
	£1472 18 11

### BEQUEST FUND.

1901—Balance at Deposit in E.S. & A. Bank .. .. .	Amount Transferred to General Fund .. .. .
Additional Deposit .. .. .	Fixed Deposits in E.S. & A. Bank .. .. .
Interest .. .. .	
	£278 18 3

Melbourne, 7th March, 1902.

J. A. DAVIES, Treasurer.

Audited and found correct,

J. BARNACLE, A.S.A.A., Eng. }  
A. R. LYALL. } Auditors.

#### 4—COUNCIL OF CHURCHES.

The question of our representation on the "Council of Churches" was delegated to us by last Conference for consideration and report. After due inquiry we beg to submit the following report:

With reference to our associating with the Council of Churches we report as follows:—(1) It will be necessary for us to make application to the Council for membership. The Council will vote on this application, and in the event of a vote favorable to our admission would determine our representation in proportion to our membership. (2) The object of the Council is "to give opportunity for consultation and co-operation on matters affecting the religious, moral, and social interests of the community." (3) The Constitution provides that each church shall be represented by an "equal number of clerical and lay representatives." (4) "No public action shall be taken by the Council except at the instance of a two-thirds majority of the meeting dealing with the matter, and in the event of the representatives present of any one or more churches objecting, if any action be taken it shall be in the name only of the churches constituting the majority."

M. W. Green moved, That having considered the constitution of the Council of Churches, and the purposes for which it is formed, this Conference now decides to appoint four brethren—two evangelists and two other brethren—to wait upon the said Council to confer with them as to our becoming connected with the Council, the final

decision as to our becoming connected with the Council being left to the Executive of the Conference.

This was spoken to by H. Swain, F. G. Dunn, F. W. Clarey, F. McClean, J. Pittman and C. W. Mitchell.

It was then moved That we proceed to next business, which was carried, and the question of appointing a deputation to the Council of Churches lapsed.

On the motion of A. W. Connor it was resolved that A. B. Maston be requested to publish in tract form the correspondence *re* Simultaneous Mission.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

PRESIDENT.—James Johnston.

VICE-PRESIDENT.—Alfred Millis.

TREASURER.—J. A. Davies.

SECRETARY.—M. McLellan.

ASST. SECRETARY.—R. Lyall.

HOME MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.—Thos. Hagger, F. G. Dunn, A. B. Maston, T. J. Cook, W. C. Thurgood, R. C. Edwards, J. W. Baker.

(The voting was equal between J. W. Baker and J. Pittman. The latter retired in favor of J. Baker.)

FOREIGN MISSIONARY COMMITTEE.—J. Pittman, W. C. Thurgood, M. W. Green, H. Swain, in conjunction with the following sisters elected by the Sisters' Conference—Mrs. J. A. Davies, Mrs. Huntsman, and Mrs. Maston.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE.—T. J. Cook, A. Millis, T. Hagger, J. Pittman, H. Mahon, J. A. Palmer, C. H. Martin.

CONFERENCE SERMON.—F. W. Greenwood.

CONFERENCE ESSAY.—M. W. Green.

#### HOME MISSION NIGHT.

After the adjournment the Conference re-assembled at 7 p.m. and engaged in devotional exercises under the leadership of J. Pittman.

At 7.30 the President, W. C. Morro, resumed the chair, and the Home Mission Session was duly opened with hymn and prayer.

Bro. Morro complimented the brethren on the large gathering that had assembled together, and trusted that it was a promise of a grand and successful work during the present year.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN VICTORIA, 1902.

CHURCHES.	CHURCH ADDITIONS.					CHURCH LOSSES.		MEMBERSHIP.			SCHOOL STATISTICS.				Church Additions from Sunday School	MISSION FUNDS.						Seating Capacity of Place of Meeting	Average Attendance of Members at Meetings for Worship	Average Attendance at Preaching Services	Isolated Brethren on Church Roll		
	Members	Faith and Obedience	Letter	Baptized Believers	Restoration	Letter.	Death	Removal & Roll revised	Members	Increase	Decrease	Scholars	Scholars	Teachers		Teachers	Victoria, including Annual Collections		Foreign, including Special Collections		Average Attendance of Members at Meetings for Worship					Average Attendance at Preaching Services	Isolated Brethren on Church Roll
																	£	s.	d.	£							
Ascot Vale..	51	2				6		47	4		1901	1902	1901	1902	1	4	2	1	4	5	6	250	36	85			
*Archerton	12							12								1	2	8	0	13	5	100	6				
Bairnsdale..	43		1					43			90	40	8	5					1	4	0	200	25	80			
Ballarat East	117	18	3			1	1	5	6	133	110	115	10	8	17	6	6	0	7	0	0						
Ballarat West	14					14																					
*Bangerang	200	104	2	2		17	3	259	59	14	150	220	12	14	24	14	8	6	9	0	0	400	100	300			
Bendigo ..	54		3			6		55	1		43	43	5	5		8	2	3	4	0	0	100	30	20			
Bet Bet ..	91		5			6		90			47	43	4	3		5	5	0	8	5	6	150	60	70			
Berwick ..	92		4			1		99	7		110	120	13	14		10	18	7	10	7	6						
Brighton ..	23		1			5	1	24	1		40	37	5	5		5	3	3	6	7	0	200	18				
Brim ..	11					2		9	2							1	0	0									
Broadmeadows	11					2		11																			
*Buninyong	195	15	7			12	16	189	6		225	225	13	13	7	3	0	6	1	11	2	280	85	220			
Brunswick ..	6							6																			
*Benjeroop	6							6																			
Ballapella	18	2	2			1		21	3		21	26	2	2		2	6	0	0	16	3	100	18	25			
Bayswater ..	12	5	1			1		17	5													50	10				
Bordertown (S. A.)	92	8	2			2	1	6	95	3	107	117	12	11	4	2	9	0	3	16	7	120	45	50			
Barker's Creek	389	28	18			8	6	421	32		195	204	17	17	15	33	1	4	11	9	0	500	140	350			
Carlton, Lygon-street	52							52			140	140	11	11		0	15	3									
*Carlton, North	169	12	3			2	1	144	32		137	230	17	18	10	4	18	0	3	7	0	550	60	150			
Collingwood	193	12	7			11	2	5	194	1	156	150	16	16	7	9	14	9	6	9	6	200	100	200			
Cheltenham	28					3		29	1							1	2	6	0	11	0	150	15	25			
Castlemaine	17	4				2		19	2							1	9	6	1	7	6	170	10	45			
Cosgrove ..	32		2					34	2		52	51	6	4		0	15	9	0	10	0	200					
Croydon ..	14		1	2		2	1	14				9		2		0	16	6	0	13	9	150	11				
Colac ..	49	5				1		53	4		37	37	3	3	3	1	2	11	0	9	6						
Carew, S. A.	163	17				1		179	16		175	175	12	12	15	13	4	7	37	12	0	200					
Doncaster ..	29					2		27	2		4	15	6	4	1	4	15	6	4	4	1	100	15	20			
Dunmunkle	33	3				1		28	5		22	22	3	4		1	16	0	2	0	0	60	22	30			
Dunolly ..	46	5	1	2		5		49	3		17	30	3	4	1	2	6	0	3	11	0	60	15	25			
Drummond	7					5		6	1							1	10	0	1	0	0						
Dandenong	10		1					11	1							1	0	0	0	13	0						
Daylesford	15							15																			
*Elphinstone	51	11	5			1		66	15		25	26	2	2	8	1	4	6	2	10	0	75					
Emerald ..	5							5																			
Euroa ..	61	4	2			2	1	62	1		24	18	3	2		1	9	0	1	8	0	80	20	30			
Echuca ..	158	40	9	7		5	2	12	196	38	200	190	17	18	10	17	18	0	9	2	0	500	100	300			
Fitzroy ..	313	17	9			16	3	8	312		381	338	28	29	10	14	19	11	8	1	9	500	130	300			
Fitzroy, North	37	1	4			4		4			50	45	3	2					0	14	0	120	30	30			
Fairfield Park	98	6	4			5	2	6	95	3	185	196	16	16	4	5	14	1	2	18	9	350	64	170			
Footscray ..	14							15	1							0	12	6	1	10	0	60	10				
Fernihurst ..	55	8	8			2		69	14		44	30	7	4		2	11	0	1	8	0	100	22	25			
Geelong ..	46					2	9	35	11	8						5	0	0	3	14	6	60	18	17			
Galaquil ..	8							8								0	4	0	0	4	0						
Glenorchy	178	25	23			17		209	31		125	115	13	14	3	51	17	7	11	18	1	250	88	200			
Hawthorn ..	4					1		3	1																		
Homebush	20	2		3		1		26	6		35	32	5	4		1	11	6	1	3	3	120	14	28			
Horsham ..	46	6						52	6		35	38	3	3	1	2	1	0	2	3	3	90	35	40			
Hopetoun ..	32							32			20	20	2	2		1	10	0	2	6	6	80	15	8			
Kaniva ..	12							12								2	0	0	2	0	0	20					
Kyabram ..	14		2				3	13	1							1	6	0	1	4	2	100	25				
Kerang East	30	3	2			2	1	32	2							5	11	0	4	7	6						
Lancefield	12							12																			
Lillimur ..	10							10																			
Lake Rowan	10							10																			
Mumble Plains	157	17	5			2	3	6	168	11	97	90	11	10	5	78	8	11	43	4	6	450					
Melb'rne, Swanston-st	279	9	4			1	16	75	205	74	220	210	17	20		6	6	9	1	18	0	300	110	170			
Melbourne North	117	20	7			3	1	115	199	220	199	220	13	10	2	3	10	0	1	16	6	225	40	80			
Melbourne, South	62	5	6			4	3	4	62		56	64	8	7	2	2	0	0	2	0	6	120	25	42			
Maryborough	6							6			15	10	2	1					0	12	0	100	4				
Mount Clear	16	1	2	1				18	2		45	31	3	3		0	11	3	0	15	0	35	11	20			
Mooroolbark	5							5																			
Murtoa ..	2							2																			
Miepoll .. (town)	8							10	2																		
Maldavale (nr. Hope)	52	4	6			1		61	9		60	66	10	10	2	3	13	11	6	10	6	35					
Malvern ..	9							9			14	22	2	3		0	12	3	0	4	0	150	7	12			
Minyip ..	15		1	6				22	7							2	0	0	2	3	6						



emphasise what it said in regard to Bro. Morro, and was sure that he expressed the sentiments of the brotherhood in expressing regret for his projected departure to America.

6—BROKEN HILL.

We are in receipt of the following communication from Bro. Percy Pittman, secretary of the Evangelistic Union, South Australia:—

"The Committee of the S. A. Evangelistic Union would be glad to know if your Committee could co-operate with them in supporting an evangelist at BROKEN HILL. The geographical position of that town would suggest that its evangelisation should be an Inter-State question. The church at Broken Hill is able to guarantee £100 per annum towards the work, and they will shortly have a suitable hall to hold meetings in. Nothing can be done till March of next year, but if at that time the three Committees of Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia could co-operate, the expense would not be very heavy for each, and a great work would, with the blessing of the Master, be done in that important town. We cannot see our way to undertake the work alone, but would be glad to do our part. We are also writing to N.S.W."

We have not made any promise to contribute towards this undoubtedly good object, but have intimated that it would be placed before Conference for their favourable consideration.

Percy Pittman advocated the claims of the church at Broken Hill to the consideration of the brotherhood in Victoria. W. Charlick, of S.A., endorsed what Bro. Pittman had said. The subject was spoken to by Jas. Johnston, A. B. Maston, J. A. Davies, H. Swain, and F. McClean, after which it was resolved, That it be a recommendation to the Conference Committee to take the matter into its favorable consideration.

7—THE FEDERAL CAPITAL.

The New South Wales Conference Committee has sent us a proposal for securing a chapel site in the Federal Capital, and "establishing and maintaining a church in the Federal Capital." It is proposed that the churches in all the States in the Commonwealth participate in this work. The letter will be read to the Conference and left in their hands for consideration.

It was resolved, That the consideration of the clause relating to the Federal Capital be left in the hands of the Conference Committee.

8—THANKS.

We have to express our very best thanks to the churches at Swanston-st. and Lygon-st. for the use of their buildings, and to Brethren J. Barnacle and A. R. Lyall for their kindness in auditing the various accounts. To our Heavenly Father we express our heartfelt thanks and gratitude for his loving care over us; and trust that under his divine guidance some good work has been done for his glory, the extension of the Saviour's Kingdom, and the upbuilding of the church of Christ.

W. C. MORRO B.A., PRESIDENT.  
M. McLELLAN, SECRETARY.

Adopted.

Jubilee Celebration Committee's Report.

The Jubilee Celebration Committee beg to submit the following recommendations:—

1. That the year 1903 be the Jubilee Conference year, as already agreed by last year's Conference.
2. That as A. B. Maston has undertaken the compilation of a History of the Churches of Christ in the Australasian Colonies, members of churches should accord him all the help they can by purchasing copies, so that he may not be at any financial loss.
3. That special prominence should be given to tent work during the Jubilee year, and in order to make this a success, a suitable brother or brethren should be engaged; such work to be carried on under the direction of the H.M. Committee.
4. That a week's services be held at the Conference time of 1903, the following being a suggested programme:—

**Wednesday** preceding Conference.—Appropriate special programme to be arranged by the sisters.

**Thursday**.—A TEMPERANCE DEMONSTRATION to be held in such hall or chapel as the Temperance Committee may decide upon. Programme to be arranged by the Temperance Committee.

**Friday**.—USUAL CONFERENCE MEETING in Lygon-street chapel. A special programme for Home Mission night to be prepared by the H.M. Committee.

**Saturday** Forenoon and Afternoon.—Continuation of Conference business.

**Saturday Evening**.—FOREIGN MISSION NIGHT. A special programme to be prepared by the F.M. Committee.

**Sunday Afternoon**.—CONFERENCE SERMON in the North Fitzroy chapel.

**Monday**.—CONFERENCE PICNIC.

**Monday Evening**.—JUBILEE THANKSGIVING SERVICE in Swanston-street chapel, programme to be prepared by the Conference Committee.

**Tuesday Evening**.—SUNDAY SCHOOL DEMONSTRATION, to be held in the Town Hall; a Floral and Choral Service suggested. Programme to be prepared by the Sunday School Union.

**Wednesday Evening**.—SPECIAL JUBILEE PUBLIC MEETING, to be held in the Town Hall. Programme to be prepared by the Conference Committee. To be preceded by a tea meeting (contingent upon satisfactory financial arrangements being made).

As it is estimated that about £150 will be required to carry out the foregoing programme, That the officers of churches be asked what their churches will contribute towards a "Jubilee Fund" to meet the extra expense.

J. A. DAVIES, Chairman.

M. McLELLAN, Secretary.

The Committee's report was favorably received, and was spoken to by a number of brethren. The report was adopted, with the following additions:—That special effort be made to secure a "golden offering" from the members of the different churches—as a Jubilee Fund for Home Missions—and that the H.M. Committee undertake to secure the appointment of some person in each congregation to carry out the purpose of this resolution.

That in order to secure a large attendance of members from outside the city and suburbs at our Jubilee Conference, the members of our city and suburban churches be asked to provide free entertainment, lodging, and breakfast for all those attending from distant places, and that the Executive of this Conference, with the Executive of the Sisters' Conference be a joint Committee to devise plans for carrying this resolution into effect.

Foreign Missionary Committee's Report.

VICTORIAN CHINESE MISSION.

After much correspondence with the Board of Health concerning the rooms of meeting, it was arranged to vacate those so long occupied, and transfer the classes to the school room at Lygon-st. chapel. This seems so far to give satisfaction. No actual step has been taken to secure premises of our own. The roll includes 50 teachers and 56 scholars: 159 week-night meetings held during year and preaching services on the Lord's day: Average attendances, 13 teachers 15 scholars. Two have confessed Christ, and a third wishful so to do has been greatly persecuted. We especially desire to thank Bro. McClean and his

helpers, both English and Chinese, for their unflinching and honorary services. N.S.Wales reports, 14 scholars and 14 teachers, and S.A., 8 scholars and 16 teachers.

F. McClean said that the work in connection with the Mission was found to be hard, but it was glorious nevertheless. It was hard work in respect to the matter of conversions, but he was glad to say that they had some results to report. Some of those who had been brought to Christ were making themselves useful in making known the glad tidings to their fellow-countrymen.

EXECUTIVE.

1. At the last South Australian Conference the following resolution was carried, and is now submitted for the consideration of the N.S.W. and Victorian Conferences.

"That a general organising secretary for all Australia for working up interest in Home and Foreign Missions be appointed."

Percy Pittman (S.A.) spoke to the question of appointing a general organising Secretary, and explained the intention of the recommendation.

The question was spoken to by A. B. Maston, M. W. Green, J. Johnston, and H. G. Harward. It was resolved, That in view of the numerical and financial condition of Australia the suggestion from South Australia be not adopted.

2. KANAKA MISSION.—The reports are fairly encouraging. R. Ruddell has been in charge while Jno. Thompson visited South. Our brother spoke in as many of our church gatherings as was practicable, and it is hoped by the diffusion of knowledge amongst the brethren much good will be effected. In and about Melbourne Bro. Webster of Swanston-st. church, aided considerably toward the success of the meetings by his expert handling of the Lantern. Jno. Thompson reported all well on his return to Childers. Owing to the cessation of Kanaka labor in Queensland in the near future, our brother is very anxious to have a look at the Islands with a view to establishing a station there, but he cannot leave at present. Mrs. Thompson and Taby Man Con did all they could during our brother's six months absence. Taby is going to the Islands almost at once. Bro. Thompson reports a returned Kanaka as baptising 45 converts. The Committee has purchased a fresh lantern for Bro. Thompson's use.

In responding to the clause dealing with the Kanaka Mission, it was suggested by J. W. Baker that it would help the movement if some of the converts were invited to pay us a visit. The clause was spoken to by F. W. Greenwood, D. C. McCallum, and H. G. Harward.

3. CHINA AND JAPAN.—During the year Miss Tonkin farewelled as our first Missionary to China. Our sister was for many years Bro. H. D. Smith's ardent helper in the Foreign Mission interest in South Australia. In December Bro. Ware wrote that all were greatly taken with Miss Tonkin. Her progress in the language was so far, satisfactory. Miss Tonkin is now in charge of the school for the English speaking Chinese. Present membership in Shanghai 125, eight being added in the twelve months. Scholars 50. Total membership in China 576, with Sunday scholars 271.

In Japan we have taken over the entire support of Bro. P. A. Davey, formerly of Melbourne, now laboring at Tokio, under American F. M. Society. Membership, 259. Added during the year, 49. Sunday School scholars, 480. In all, Japan are 832 members and 942 scholars.

Adopted.

4. SOUTH AFRICA.—Nothing of note has been done. The country is still somewhat unsettled. The opinion seems to be growing that we could well station a brother at Johannesburg ourselves, and so leave the English brethren a free hand as regards Cape Town or other centres. We have no brother specially in view.

5. INDIA.—Sister Mary Thompson diligently pur-



# FOREIGN MISSION FUND.

## GENERAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1901-1902.

RECEIPTS.	
Balance on 31st March, 1901 .. ..	£325 8 7
<i>New South Wales</i> —	
Contributions from Churches and Members .. ..	100 2 7
Contributions from S. Schools .. ..	8 1 7
	<u>108 4 2</u>
<i>New Zealand</i> —	
Contributions from Churches and Members .. ..	59 8 10
Contributions from S. Schools .. ..	4 12 0
	<u>64 0 10</u>
<i>Queensland</i> —	
Contributions from Churches and Members .. ..	70 16 5
Contributions from S. Schools .. ..	2 12 2
	<u>73 8 7</u>
Grant for Kanaka Educational Purposes .. ..	37 2 6
<i>South Australia</i> —	
Contributions Received per S.A. Committee .. ..	186 4 6
Contributions from Churches Received by Vic. Com. .. ..	2 16 8
	<u>189 1 2</u>
<i>Tasmania</i> —	
Contributions from Churches and Members .. ..	9 8 0
<i>Victoria</i> —	
Contributions from Churches and Members .. ..	334 3 2
Contributions from S. Schools .. ..	15 0 6
Collection at Conference, 1901 .. ..	15 8 3
	<u>364 11 11</u>
<i>Western Australia</i> —	
Contributions from Churches and Members .. ..	39 19 3
<i>Sundry</i> —	
Interest on Government Debentures .. ..	12 0 0
Collections at Jno. Thompson's Lectures—	
Victoria .. ..	34 18 0
South Australia .. ..	18 12 6
New South Wales .. ..	9 10 2
Tasmania .. ..	9 0 6
	<u>72 1 2</u>
Contribution from Church, Armadale, Scotland, per Bro. J. Frazer, N.S.W. ..	1 10 0

EXPENDITURE.	
<i>India</i> —Salaries to March, 1902—	
Miss Mary Thompson .. ..	£104 0 0
Mr. F. E. Stubbin .. ..	104 0 0
Mrs. Stubbin .. ..	90 0 0
Shah (Native Preacher; £12 10/- is contributed by Doncaster Mission Band, Vic.) .. ..	32 0 0
	<u>330 0 0</u>
Mrs. Stubbin, Trav. Expenses to India .. ..	10 0 0
Yakub Masi (Native Helper; Salary Provided by Grote-st. F.M. Socy., Adelaide, S.A.) .. ..	15 0 0
Bhogona (Native Student; Salary Provided by Norwood F.M. Socy., Adelaide, S.A.) .. ..	5 0 0
	<u>20</u>
<i>Benevolent Work</i> —	
Amount Provided by Grote-st., S.A. Young Men's Bible Class for Support of Jalan, Native Boy; Forwarded W.E. Rambo, Orphanage, Damoh, India .. ..	10 0 0
Amount Provided by Unley F.M. Socy. (S.A.), for Support of Native Boy; Forwarded to W.E. Rambo .. ..	5 0 0
Amount Provided by Enmore S.S. (N.S.W.), for Support of Orphan; Forwarded to W. E. Rambo .. ..	5 0 0
Amount Provided by Fitzroy Tab. C.E. (Vic.), for Support of Orphan; Forwarded to W. E. Rambo .. ..	3 0 0
Amounts Forwarded for Distribution in Orphan and Charitable Work, to—	
W. E. Rambo, Damoh .. ..	2 10 0
Miss Thompson, Harra .. ..	6 10 0
F. E. Stubbin, Deoghur .. ..	10 0 0
	<u>42 0 0</u>
<i>China</i> —Miss Rosa L. Tonkin—	
Salary to 31st March, 1902 .. ..	63 6 8
Salary to 31st Oct., 1902 .. ..	60 13 4
Trav. Expenses & Outfit .. ..	46 18 1
	<u>170 18 1</u>
Forwarded for Benevolent Work .. ..	5 0 0
<i>Japan</i> —Percy E. Davey—Salary to 31st Mar., 1902 (working under direction Amer. F.M.S.) .. ..	60 0 0
<i>Kanaka Mission, Queensland</i> —	
John Thompson—Sal. to Mar. 31, '02 .. ..	132 0 0
Mr. Ruddell—Sal. during Mr. Thompson's Absence .. ..	28 0 0
TabyManCon (Kanaka Helper)—Sal. to 31st March, 1902 .. ..	16 0 0
Horse .. ..	6 0 0
Board and Horsefeed .. ..	52 0 0
	<u>234 0 0</u>
John Thompson—Expenses to Southern States, Fares, &c. .. ..	25 5 0
New Lantern .. ..	9 0 0
New Slides and Outfit .. ..	20 14 9
	<u>54 19 9</u>
Benevolent Work—Forwarded to Jno. Thompson .. ..	6 10 0
<i>Chinese Mission (Victoria)</i> —	
Rent of Schoolroom to 31st March, 1902 .. ..	36 8 6
<i>Chinese Mission (N.S.W.)</i> —Expenses .. ..	7 10 0
<i>Charges</i> —Postage, Exchange, &c. .. ..	11 8 6
Printing .. ..	44 8 8
Periodicals .. ..	1 15 0
Sundries .. ..	1 12 6
Postage, Exch., N.S.W. Com .. ..	11 1 11
	<u>70 6</u>
<i>Sundry</i> —Charges connected with Jno. Thompson's Lectures, Trav. Expenses, Cartage of Luggage and Lantern Expenses—Victoria .. ..	33 4 8
N.S.W. .. ..	7 15 3
S.A. .. ..	15 4 0
Bal. Retained by S.A. Com. .. ..	3 8 6
Tasmania .. ..	7 18 0
	<u>67 10</u>
Balance on Hand .. ..	181 12 10

£1296 16 2

£1296 16 2

**BEQUEST FUND.**  
 Balance, March, 1901 .. .. £57 6 4  
 Balance, March, 1902 .. .. £57 6 4  
 Audited and found correct,  
 J. BARNACLE, A.S.A., Eng. } Auditors.  
 A. R. LYALL  
 ROBERT LYALL, Treasurer

NEW ZEALAND.			
Churches and Individuals—			
Auckland .. ..	..	11	18 9
Collingwood .. ..	..	0	5 6
Dunedin .. ..	..	12	14 3
Dunedin, South .. ..	..	3	14 6
East Oxford .. ..	..	0	5 0
Greymouth .. ..	..	1	0 0
Hoteo North .. ..	..	0	10 0
Kaipara .. ..	..	2	0 0
Mataura .. ..	..	6	3 6
Mornington .. ..	..	1	3 0
Ngaroto .. ..	..	1	10 0
Papakura .. ..	..	2	15 0
Oamaru .. ..	..	2	10 0
Stanley Brook .. ..	..	2	0 0
Spring Grove .. ..	..	1	13 4
Takaka .. ..	..	0	11 0
Warrington .. ..	..	0	10 0
Wellsford .. ..	..	1	10 0
Warkworth .. ..	..	3	2 0
Wellington .. ..	..	0	13 0
North East Valley .. ..	..	3	0 0
Sunday Schools .. ..	..	4	12 0
			<hr/>
		£64	0 10

TASMANIA.			
Churches and Individuals—			
Beulah .. ..	..	1	0 0
Hobart .. ..	..	0	9 6
Kelleve .. ..	..	4	2 6
New Coast .. ..	..	2	0 0
New Ground .. ..	..	1	16 0
			<hr/>
		£9	8 0

WEST AUSTRALIA.			
Churches and Individuals—			
Collie .. ..	..	0	10 0
Coolgardie .. ..	..	12	1 3
Fremantle .. ..	..	9	0 0
Harvey .. ..	..	0	14 6
Perth .. ..	..	15	3 6
Subiaco .. ..	..	2	10 0
			<hr/>
		£39	19 3

QUEENSLAND.			
Churches and Individuals—			
Brisbane .. ..	..	9	12 6
Boonah .. ..	..	2	1 0
Crow's Nest .. ..	..	2	0 0
Cairns (per N.S.W. Com.) .. ..	..	0	10 0
Childers .. ..	..	5	0 4
Charters Towers .. ..	..	2	16 0
Clifton Springs .. ..	..	0	10 0
Eel Creek .. ..	..	1	7 6
Gympie .. ..	..	1	15 0
Gregory .. ..	..	0	15 0
Greenmount .. ..	..	4	15 0
Mount Walker .. ..	..	1	10 0
Marburg .. ..	..	0	10 0
Ma Ma Creek .. ..	..	1	9 0
Maryborough .. ..	..	5	0 0
Rosewood .. ..	..	2	11 6
Rosevale .. ..	..	2	15 0
Roma .. ..	..	15	1 6
Mount Whitestone .. ..	..	0	10 0
Toowoomba .. ..	..	1	5 0
Thornton .. ..	..	1	12 6
Vernor .. ..	..	2	14 7
Wallumbilla .. ..	..	0	10 0
Yingerbay .. ..	..	2	5 0
Zillmere .. ..	..	2	0 0
Sunday Schools .. ..	..	2	12 2
Other Sources .. ..	..	37	2 6
			<hr/>
		£110	11 1

### Temperance Committee's Report.

In submitting the report of the Temperance Committee for the past year, we desire to give thanks to our Heavenly Father for the privilege of being co-workers with him in fighting the evils of the drink traffic, and for the help and encouragement he has given us. At the first meeting of the Committee, M. W. Green was appointed President; A. Millis, Vice-President; T. Hagger, Press Correspondent; T. J. Cook, Secretary and Treasurer. Recognising the great importance of good musical items in our demonstrations, the leader of the Christian Temperance Choir, Nat Haddow, was invited to attend all meetings of the Committee, and to take charge of the musical arrangements of our demonstrations. To our great pleasure he cordially acceded to our

requests, and the success of our meetings has in no slight degree been due to him. To the Quartette Party (Miss Allen, Miss McColl, Mr. Barnden and Mr. N. Haddow), and the pianiste (Miss Dickens), we also wish to tender our hearty thanks for their very valuable aid at all meetings.

The absence and necessity of temperance work among the young people of our Sunday Schools were felt by the Committee, and letters were sent to most of the schools in the State asking that special temperance services be held quarterly. Nine schools responded, four of which asked for supplies of speakers. 38 pledges were recorded at these special services—Surrey Hills, 18; Ascot Vale, 6; Fitzroy, 14. No other schools sent in records.

The Committee then began a series of temperance lantern demonstrations for the school children, and four very successful meetings, with a total of 95 pledges, were held at North Richmond, North Melbourne, Collingwood and Lygon-st. We desire to thank the Victorian Alliance, and its splendid workers John Vale, A. Sculthorpe, and W. Bottrell, for their valuable help in these lantern services.

In furtherance of our work among the children, we sought a conference with the S.S.U. Two meetings have been held, and some very important movements are under consideration by the two bodies. One result of this conference is that a question on the Temperance Lesson is to be asked in all divisions at the Union's forthcoming examination, 1902. We are looking forward to much good resulting from this conference with the delegates of our S.S.U.

The use of the Home Mission tent was granted at Fitzroy for a demonstration on November 25th, 1901. A very large crowd was attracted, the Christian Temperance Choir sang, and three pledges were secured. This was our first tent meeting, and we hope to make further good use of it.

The visit to Australia of John G. Woolley, the foremost prohibitionist of America, aroused much enthusiasm in Melbourne, and his services were secured for a lecture at Lygon-st. on October 2nd, 1901. Although Mr. Woolley could only oblige by speaking in the afternoon, the building was crowded. His address on "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way?" will long be remembered. The entire collection, £8/5/0, was given to the Victorian Alliance for Mr. Woolley.

For the World's Temperance Sunday, Nov. 24, 1901, preachers were urged to deliver special addresses, and to aid in this the committee sent out 50 of the Annual Sunday Budgets of Temperance information issued by the Victorian Alliance.

We have taken part in such work as Bands of Hope, Melbourne Total Abstinence Society, Citizen's League, and our President represented and spoke for us at the Deputation to the State Chief Secretary on February 13th, 1902, to urge amendments to the Licensing Act.

Diagrams and picture wall sheets have been procured for use at our demonstrations.

Our finances are in a very healthy condition, as will be seen by the Balance Sheet, and through the liberal support of the brethren we have been enabled to make this a record year of work. A continuance of this support is very desirable.

During our term of office we have held the following 19 demonstrations, and the pledges obtained are attached:

Fitzroy, 5; Balmain Street, Richmond, 8; Murrumbidgee, 11; Ascot Vale, 18; Brunswick, 27; North Fitzroy, 16; South Yarra, 17; Fairfield, 8; Doncaster, 0; Hawthorn, 0; Brighton, 21; N. Richmond, 24; North Melbourne, 26; Collingwood, 27; Lygon Street (three meetings), 18; Surrey Hills, 0; Tent, 3.

Home Missionary A. W. Connor reports nine meetings with 60 pledges. Home Missionary H. Leng, reports 13 meetings, 3 Societies organised, with 72 pledges. Our sincere thanks are given to these two brethren for their hearty and successful work.

The total number of pledges recorded by the Committee for the year is 423, and this large record will be further increased when full reports are sent in.

Our thanks are due to the AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN and the Alliance Record for their valuable aid in publishing our news items and for the support rendered to our cause, to all church officers for use of buildings, and to all who helped in our programmes by speaking and singing. We now leave our work in God's hand as seed sown, trusting it will produce the good fruit desired.

The Committee have held 11 meetings. Attendances:—M. W. Green, 11; A. Millis, 7; T. Hagger,

9; H. Swain, 10; J. Pittman, 8; F. W. Greenwood, 6; T. J. Cook, 11.

M. W. GREEN, President.  
THOS. J. COOK, Secretary.

March 11, 1902.

### BALANCE SHEET, 1901-1902.

RECEIPTS.	
Balance from 1900-1901 .. ..	£3 15 8
Conference Collection .. ..	.. 10 2 0
Collections at Demonstrations—	
Fitzroy .. ..	£0 12 3
Surrey Hills .. ..	.. 0 13 11
S. Richmond .. ..	.. 0 10 7
Murrumbidgee .. ..	.. 1 2 8
N. Richmond .. ..	.. 1 10 11
Ascot Vale .. ..	.. 1 5 4½
Brunswick .. ..	.. 0 10 1
N. Melbourne .. ..	.. 0 19 8½
N. Fitzroy .. ..	.. 1 5 7
S. Yarra .. ..	.. 0 13 8
Collingwood .. ..	.. 0 18 5
Carlton .. ..	.. 1 5 3
J. G. Woolley's .. ..	.. 8 5 0
Fairfield .. ..	.. 0 4 9
Doncaster .. ..	.. 3 0 10
Tea, Doncaster .. ..	.. 1 12 0
Brighton .. ..	.. 0 16 5
Lygon-st. .. ..	.. 2 5 0
Tent at Fitzroy .. ..	.. 1 16 4
	<hr/>
	29 8 9

EXPENDITURE.	
Printing, Advertising .. ..	£10 0 3
Travelling Expenses .. ..	.. 7 17 10
Donation John G. Woolley .. ..	.. 8 5 0
Isaac Selby .. ..	.. 1 2 6
Victorian Alliance .. ..	.. 3 3 0
Hire of Halls, etc. .. ..	.. 2 18 3
Postage and Pledge Books .. ..	.. 2 15 4
Music .. ..	.. 1 18 2
	<hr/>
Total Expenditure .. ..	£38 0 4
Balance in Hand .. ..	.. 5 6 1
	<hr/>
	£43 6 5

Audited and found correct,  
J. BARNACLE }  
Melb., March 13, 1902. A. R. LYALL } Auditors.

T. J. Cook said the report which was before them was a brief summary of the work done during the year. The Home Missionaries had been requested to co-operate with the Committee in furthering the interests of Temperance in their various districts, which request had been complied with, and the results were very satisfactory.

J. Pittman called attention to the valuable assistance rendered by the Christian Temperance Choir under the leadership of Nat Haddow, which assistance had been instrumental in making the meetings successful.

M. W. Green spoke in very high terms of the services rendered by the Secretary, T. J. Cook, upon whom the burden of the work had fallen throughout the year.

A vote of thanks were given to Nat Haddow and his co-workers, and also to the Secretary, T. J. Cook.

### Hymn Book Account.

RECEIPTS.	
Amount in Savings Bank, 1901 .. ..	£42 10 5
Bank interest .. ..	.. 1 1 0
	<hr/>
	£43 11 5
	<hr/>
EXPENDITURE.	
Balance in Savings Bank .. ..	£43 11 5
	<hr/>
	£43 11 5

Audited and found correct  
J. BARNACLE, A.S.A.A., ENG. }  
Melb. 7/3/02. A. R. LYALL. } Auditors.

## Sunday School Union Report.

On behalf of the Union, we have to lay before the Conference the following epitome of work done during the past year.

On examining our financial position at our annual meeting in May last, we found that our outstanding liabilities amounted to £2416/9. The debt was not ours, but a legacy of ten years' growth. It has been extinguished, all expenses incurred to date paid, and we have a small cash balance in hand. The expenses of our annual examination, taking place on April 7th, have, however, to be provided for; and while tendering our heartfelt thanks to those who by their efforts and liberality have enabled us to gain our present position, we shall be further thankful to any who may yet render us aid to meet the expenses that will yet be entailed on us before our financial year closes. Perhaps this can best be done by several brethren undertaking to provide the prizes offered for competition, full particulars of which may be obtained from our Secretary, and which would be presented in the donors' names.

In conjunction with the Conference Temperance Committee, steps have been taken which, we trust, will still further conduce to the wide-spread diffusion of temperance principles among the scholars attending our Lord's day schools. The subjects dealt with have been as follows:—The setting of special questions on the temperance lessons at our annual examination; the making of these lessons, as they occur, the basis for special services in our schools; half-yearly competitions among our scholars on temperance subjects; and the preparation of an uniform pledge card for adults and juniors alike. Some of these matters have been fully settled, and action taken on them; while the others, although still under discussion as to detail, will, we trust, very shortly be in operation.

The number of entries for our last examination showed a large falling off in the list of competitors, nor were the answers generally of a high grade or a satisfactory nature. This year, however, 516 competitors have sent in their names, 114 in excess of the highest number of entries in any previous year, and we trust the results of the forthcoming examination may prove to be of a more satisfactory nature. The awards gained were presented in May last by the retiring President, Bro. M. W. Green; but the attendance was somewhat limited, and we hope to command a far larger support at our annual meeting this year.

In order to keep the work of our Union and the schools more prominently before the churches, and to stir up a more lively interest in them, a half-yearly gathering was held in November last. Our effort was favourably received and well supported, and a select programme of musical and other items very creditably rendered by scholars from a number of our schools and friends who gave us their assistance, to the gratification of the large audience who gathered around us.

With the opening of this year, the quarterly prayer, praise, and instruction meetings for teachers and elder scholars, which had been allowed to lapse for some years past, were revived; and the attendance at the first gives us every encouragement to hope for the success of those which are ahead. The instructive addresses were entrusted to Bro. Morro and Johnston, and we have to tender those brethren our most hearty thanks for their services on that occasion.

We have also to thank Bro. Morro for undertaking to conduct a weekly training class for teachers during the first quarter of this year. Several have availed themselves of the facilities thus offered to them of gaining valuable instruction from a highly competent teacher, and our only regret is, that the projected departure of Bro. Morro will not enable us to retain his valuable services much longer. Steps, however, are being taken to make this the nucleus of a permanent Normal Class; and we hope, before his assistance will no longer be at our command, to have made arrangements for the latter being carried on.

The whole of the city and suburban schools have been visited once, and the second round of visitation is now in progress, and will be completed within the next few weeks. Generally, the schools have been found in a fair state of efficiency, and the official teaching staffs to be earnest and diligent in the discharge of their duties. In some of our schools, however, more teachers are required; the work is in a measure impeded for lack of them; and we lovingly urge those who are yet standing idly by to render assistance in this direction. One fresh school, Cudgee, has been added to our list during the year.

As we cannot visit our country schools, our Secretary has written them monthly, keeping them posted

up on what is being done, and otherwise. This, we have learnt, has removed that feeling of isolation under which they were suffering, while it has led to some of their wants being brought under our notice, which we have been able to supply.

The Union has for years past urged upon the schools the advisability of having an uniform system of marking, but without any beneficial results following. Shortly after his appointment, our Secretary, therefore, prepared a mark register on the principle advocated by the Union. This was submitted to and taken up by our Bro. Maston, and is now in use in several of our schools, under the title of the "Austral Uniform Mark Register." Where introduced, it has been well received, and found acceptable and easy in working, and we would advise its general adoption in all schools.

Our annual picnic was held at Darling in November last, and the day being favorable, and the site picturesque, commanded a very large attendance of brethren and friends of all ages, who seemed thoroughly to enjoy themselves.

On the 9th May, 21 years will have come and gone since the Union was inaugurated, its constitution drawn up, and the first members enrolled.

We have to tender our thanks to the editor of the AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN, for having given prominence to our work by the insertion of our reports, notices, and otherwise.

And so, while thanking the good Father for his blessing on our efforts in the past, we go forward with a full and lively hope that he will similarly guide and bless us in the days that are to come.

W. C. THURGOOD, President.

F. W. MARTIN, Vice-President.

B. J. KEMP, Treasurer.

THOS. GOLE, Hon. Sec.

Moved by T. Gole, the Secretary of the Union, That the report be adopted. He called attention to the fact that while the Association was called the S.S. Union of the churches of Christ in Victoria, it was nothing of the sort; it was simply a union of schools in Melbourne with some half a dozen schools thrown in.

The motion was spoken to by C. W. Mitchell, and D. C. McCallum.

### QUESTION BOX.

A Question Box on "Phases of the Lord's Day School Work" was conducted by B. J. Kemp, who responded in a very appropriate way to about twenty questions that were submitted to him, in relation to Sunday School work. At the close of the Question Box exercise, a vote of thanks was given to B. J. Kemp for the able manner in which he had answered the questions submitted to him.

Percy Pittman said he was instructed to carry the fraternal greetings of the S.S. Union of S.A. to their fellow-workers in Victoria. He assured them that they in S.A. took a great deal of interest in the work carried on in Victoria.

### CONFERENCE ESSAY.

#### SOME PROBLEMS AND THEIR SOLUTION.

The essay on the above subject was read by H. G. Harward, and the following brethren addressed themselves to it:—J. Morrison, C. T. Nixon, F. W. Greenwood, J. A. Palmer, W. McMaster, P. J. Brandt, W. Charlick, F. McClean, H. Swain, F. W. Clarey, W. Burgess, and P. Pittman. It was moved by P. Pittman and seconded by R. Lyall, That a vote of thanks be presented to Bro. Harward for what was admitted even by those who were critical to be a very able essay; after which Bro. Harward replied to his critics.

### SOUTH AFRICA.

At this stage a motion was submitted by F. M. Ludbrook recommending the sending of a preacher to South Africa. It was agreed that the question be left in the hands of the Foreign Missionary Committee.

### VOTES OF THANKS.

On the motion of F. G. Dunn a vote of thanks was presented to the President, W. C. Morro, for the efficient manner in which he had performed the duties of Chairman during the sessions of the Conference.

It was also unanimously agreed that a letter, suitably inscribed, should be given to Bro. Morro expressing the regret of the Conference at his projected departure to America, and at the same time requesting him to convey its fraternal greetings to the brotherhood of America.

Bro. Morro expressed his thanks to the Conference for the kind things that had been said about him, and assured the brethren that Australia would always have a warm place in his heart.

A comprehensive vote of thanks was then carried, which included the churches at Lygon-st. and Swanston-st., the sisters who assisted in looking after the physical welfare of the Conference, the various committees, and Bro. Nat Haddow, who had led the singing.

### FOREIGN MISSION NIGHT.

A devotional meeting conducted by T. J. Cook was held on Saturday evening, commencing at 7 o'clock, in which a number of brethren took part.

After this, the programme prepared by the Foreign Missionary Committee was taken up, the congregation singing "From Greenland's Icy Mountains," and F. G. Dunn leading the Conference in prayer.

S. Wong read the twenty-second Psalm.

A Quartette Party consisting of Nat Haddow, R. Lyall, T. J. Cook, and F. Barden, sang "Nearer My God to Thee."

The President, W. C. Morro, excused himself from giving the address he intended to deliver, as he felt that he had already spoken enough in the Conference. He would say a few words, however, in reference to what was generally spoken of as the comparative failure of Foreign Missions. It was generally regarded as hard work to bring the heathen to Christ, but he did not think it could be harder to win them than it was to win converts from Paganism in the days of the Apostles. Many of the difficulties would disappear if greater enthusiasm were manifested in the work. The love of Christ in the heart would overcome all difficulties.

F. M. Ludbrook sang "The Song of Foreign Missions," the music of which had been set by E. W. Pittman and the words composed by J. Pittman.

J. Pittman spoke on "Missions, the Vocation of the Church." He said that in plain English his subject was "Christian Missions, the Business of the Church." It was John Knox who said that he "could not rest by day nor sleep by night while Scotland was unsaved," and it should be the feeling of the church that it could not rest nor sleep until the world was saved. The heathen could not be saved unless the church



Much praise is due to Nat Haddow and R. Lyall for valuable help rendered in the song service of the Conference. All this added much to the enjoyment of all meetings.

We were delighted to see so many young men at the meetings, and at times a large number of lads who in a few years will be men were in attendance. This is as it ought to be.

There was a noted improvement in the general appearance, get up and speaking ability of our country preachers. After a few more years in the country they will be quite polished workmen.

H Leng said that some of the Wimmera brethren travelled 35 miles to get to the devotional meeting at the Kaniva Conference. This shows that they were a good deal more anxious than the Melbourne folk.

J Pittman was not only the writer of the "Foreign Mission song" which was sung at the Foreign Mission meeting, by F. M. Ludbrook, but he delivered a very effective address on "Missions, the Vocation of the Church."

W. C. Morro made a splendid chairman. He dealt firmly but fairly with everybody, and all were pleased. As our Annual Meetings grow in numbers and importance more attention will have to be given to the ordinary rules of business procedure.

There was a great crowd at the Cantata on Monday night, the place being crowded, and many being unable to gain admission, while the singing gained high water mark. We will have to consider the

advisability of securing larger buildings for these meetings.

F. M. Ludbrook told a story of Bishop Moorehouse, who was visited by an English lady who wanted to talk of missions in India. Among other things, she said she understood that they called female converts Zenanas and male converts Bananas.

Percy Pittman gave a very broad hint that when the Victorian brethren went to the S. A. Conference they talked too much, and he expressed the hope that when they went back they would not sin in the same direction. We trust they will all take due notice.

It is common to say that the last Conference was the best. So it ought to be, and we believe the one just gone was no exception. Perfect harmony existed from start to finish. There were differences, and questions were sharply discussed, but all was done in the right spirit. It was a great Annual Meeting.

The catering of the dear sisters this year was simply splendid—we came nearly saying perfect; and really as a 6d. meal, the latter is true. The food was first-class, and in abundance, while the service was in every way satisfactory. No hurrying or rush, but quiet and home-like.

The discussion of the essay was very interesting. The division of the time between a large number speaking, instead of two or three taking it all, was both right and profitable. It was not nice sometimes to be cut off in the middle of a sentence, but it pleased the other man.

## West Moreton Conference, Queensland.

### SISTERS' CONFERENCE.

The Fourth Annual Sisters' Conference was held at Rosewood on March 15th, when there were sisters present from most of the churches.

The President, Sister Houston, after opening the meeting with singing, gave a hearty welcome to all the sisters.

The minutes of previous Conference were then read.

The Treasurer, Sister Colvin, gave her report, and showed that the collections from all sisters amounted to £7/8/6. This amount was handed to the Conference Treasurer.

Sister Keeble read her essay on "Love and Unity," which she had written on the first verse of Psalms 133. She has the warmest thanks of the sisters.

Reports were received from several sisters on Lord's Day School and Band of Hope work.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs. Houston, Marburg; Vice-president, Mrs. Gray, Milbong; Secretary, Mrs. T. Jenner, Mt. Walker; Treasurer, Mrs. Colvin, Ashwell; Essayist, Mrs. Keeble, Mt. Walker.

The Conference was closed by singing the hymn, "Take time to be holy." Mrs. Alcorn engaged in prayer.

O. ADERMANN.

### WEST MORETON CIRCUIT.

The Annual Conference of the combined churches of Christ in West Moreton was held at the Rosewood chapel on the 15th inst., when there was a fair gathering of visitors from all parts of the Circuit.

### EVANGELISTS ENGAGED.

J. Paradine was re-engaged for three months.

W. G. Alcorn was re-engaged for six months, and C. Ellsworth, a new arrival from Victoria, upon the recommendation of several brethren was engaged to labor for six months on probation.

It was also resolved that the Circuit should be divided into three sections, and that each evangelist should labor for three months at a time in each section, under the supervision of a sub-committee of nine brethren, and one brother in each section to arrange with the evangelist for holding of services, etc. The brethren appointed on the Committee were—C. Adermann, W. Berlin, H. Newman, S. Gray, A. Henriksen, W. M. Alcorn, W. Bailey, and J. Larsen.

The churches comprising each section are as follows:—Lower section—Rosewood, Marburg, and Vernon churches, under supervision of C. Adermann; Bro. Paradine to labor three months.

Central section—Mount Walker, Rosevale, Boonah and Milbong, and other places if advisable; under supervision of Wm. Alcorn. Bro. Ellsworth to labor first three months.

Upper section—Ma Ma Creek, Mt. Whitestone, Flagstone Creek, West Haldon, and other places if advisable; under the supervision of Bro. J. Woolf. W. G. Alcorn to labor first three months.

The sub-committee will meet every three months to discuss the transferring of evangelists from one section to another, and such other matters as will save time at the meetings of the Conference.

It was decided that the half-yearly meeting of the Conference should be held at Rosewood, on the 17th September, 1922.

It was resolved that each church in the combination should send one or more delegates to the General Conference meeting at Brisbane on Good Friday.

This concluded the business of the Conference. Votes of thanks were accorded to the retiring President and Secretary, and to the sisters for their looking after the tables, and so amply providing for the wants of the inner man.

A public meeting was held in the evening at the large Victoria Hall, where there was a good gathering. O. Adermann presided, and after devotional exercises briefly thanked the members for having placed him in the position of President that day, and trusted that all would work together for each other's best interests. Addresses were given by Bren. Alcorn, Ellsworth and Paradine. A good programme was gone through. Selections were rendered by Rosewood and Vernon choirs, and several solos were well rendered.

O. ADERMANN.

### Brisbane Conference.

The General Conference commenced its sitting in the chapel, Ann-st., at 10.30 a.m., on Friday, March 28th, Bro. Fischer, President, in the chair. Representatives were present from Zillmere, Maryborough, Toowoomba, Rosewood, Childers, Gympie, Boonah, Mt. Whitestone, Vernor, West

Moreton and Charters Towers. The meeting opened with hymn and prayer.

The chairman in his opening remarks referred to the progress made in this State during the past eighteen years, and cited America as giving instances of periods of progress and depression incidental to religious movements, and urged at some length continued efforts on the part of individual members and evangelists in the propagation of the gospel.

Correspondence and Secretary's Reports were then received. Roll call of representatives, after which devotional exercises throughout the morning session.

Afternoon session opened with hymn and prayer. Bro. Weston, Toowoomba, in a vigorous speech urged the necessity of the formation of Districts, and put forward in a clear manner the claims of the Darling Downs District for an evangelist.

Papers were read by Bro. Hill, Zillmere, and Bro. Fisher, subjects being respectively The Church, The Temple of the Holy Spirit, The Character of the Church of Christ and its effect on the World. Considerable discussion ensued and the essays criticised by Bros. Main, Ball, Waterfield, Weston, and Swan. An adjournment was then made to interview the good things provided by the Sisters of the church at Brisbane.

Evening Session opened at 7.45 p.m., when addresses were given by Bren. Main and Thompson. Selections were given by the choir, and a recitation by Sister Patrick.

A pleasant feature of the evening was the presentation of a very handsome autograph quilt to Sister Main by Sister Moffat, on behalf of the sisters of Brisbane church. Sister Main having expressed surprise and pleasure at receiving so nice a gift, A. S. Waterfield, on behalf of the church, presented A. R. Main with a nicely bound volume of Scott's poems, and a Teacher's Bible, and to Sister Main a very handsome purse; Bro. Main returned thanks.

A very successful and enjoyable day was then brought to a close. We pray that much good will result.

March 29.

A. S. WATERFIELD.

## Here and There.

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

T. H. Scambler reports one baptism at Echuca on March 26th.

Competitors please remember S.S.U. examination, Monday, April 7th, at 7.15.

A full and complete report of the N.S.W. Conference will appear next week.

C. M. Gordon writes that he baptised two more at Sulphur Creek, Tasmania, on March 13th.

One confession on Sunday night at Cheltenham before a crowded meeting, T. H. Scambler speaking.

D. Finlayson, of the church at Dalkey, spent last Sunday with the church at Port Pirie, S.A., speaking morning and evening.

Geo. Dickens spoke in Bet Bet last Sunday morning and evening. The church there would be glad of a visit from any brother happening to be that way.

We have much interesting matter in hand, but all will have to give way just now to Conference reports. Just a little patience and all will come right.

In the Tabernacle, Dunedin, two weeks ago, another young man confessed Christ, who, with another who previously decided, was immersed on the Tuesday evening following.

We this week received an order from one of our English churches for 11,000 of our 4-p. tracts, with meeting place printed on same. Last week we sent a large parcel to Cape Town, South Africa.

On March 5th the Fremantle church welcomed J. Selwood with a social. Short addresses were given by J. Pallott, J. H. Gibson, D. A. Ewers, G. Payne, and F. Illingworth, M.L.A. J. Selwood responded. A most delightful evening was spent.

The church in Campbell-street, Sydney, gave a farewell social on Feb. 24th., to Mrs. Elliot, who with her son and youngest daughter is leaving for a visit to England. P. A. Dickson presided, and in a few words expressed the good wishes of the church. Mr. Thos. Elliot responded on behalf of Mrs. Elliot, his son, and daughter.

S. McIver, writing on March 16th from Wellington South, says:—"This evening, after the preaching of the gospel, we had the pleasure of witnessing the baptism of a man who had previously made the good confession. After the meeting was dismissed a young man came back, and as the result of some conversation he decided for Christ. As he is departing to Auckland this week his confession was taken before a few witnesses present. He will be immersed on Tuesday."

**Next Tuesday Evening, April 8, at 8 o'clock, there will be a Meeting at the Tabernacle, Fitzroy, when the church there will say good-by to H. G. Harward, as their preacher, and the Home Mission Committee will welcome him as their General Evangelist. F. G. Dunn, M. W. Green, Thos. Hagger, H. Swain, and H. G. Harward will give short addresses; Jas. Johnston will preside. All are cordially invited.**

H. W. writes from Unley, S.A.:—"Sunday School anniversary services were continued on March 26th, when the children's tea and distribution of prizes took place. T. G. Storer, who retired from the post of superintendent, was made the recipient of a nicely bound Bible. A similar tribute was paid R. Burns by his class. Some good musical items were submitted by scholars and friends, Miss Baker presiding at the organ with her usual success. Herbert Poole, an old Unley boy, but now in membership at Swanston-st., Melbourne, met with us this morning. He is over on a holiday, which we hope he may very much enjoy."

G. B. Moysey writing from Kadina, S.A., on March 31st, says:—"Sunday School anniversary services to-day. Good attendances all through, especially to-night, when the hall was full. The children were massed on the platform and sang and behaved to the satisfaction of their instructors. Special addresses were delivered—in the morning to the parents, and in the afternoon and evening, to the young. Picnic tomorrow (Easter Monday), and children's demonstration on Thursday night next. We are expecting a large attendance and happy time. During the last month two, a young woman and man have been baptised and received into fellowship. Our audiences are good, and the interest increasing."

The young man spoken of below is a son of F. W. Troy, formerly of Australia:—"John H. Troy, lately of Brooklyn, N.Y., has been employed by the Calhoun

Street church, of Baltimore, and assisted by the General Home Board, in planting a new mission church on Huntington Avenue in Baltimore. After some months it was found that Mr. Troy was not preaching the gospel of the New Testament, but, rather, the gospel of perfect holiness, as taught by F. H. Simpson; and his great efforts seemed to be to divide the mission and estrange the members from the care and affection of the Calhoun Street church. On account of the divisive nature of his work, he was asked to resign, and it became necessary that he should be dismissed summarily from the work. Neither the Calhoun Street church nor the Home Board can commend him or his work."

M. Glaister, writing from Mornington, N.Z., says: "Last Lord's day evening, at the close of T. M. Turner's address, three made the good confession, and at a special gospel address later on the same evening by S. J. Mathison, in the South Dunedin chapel, three more who had gone down from the former meeting, came out for Christ. All six were baptised on Monday, and five were received into fellowship this morning, one who was unable to attend partaking to-night at the close of the gospel address. S. J. Mathison delivered a stirring address to a packed meeting to-night, and we had the pleasure of witnessing the good confession by one young man. The roof is now on the new building, which is expected to be completed about the end of next month, and our treasurer will be pleased to receive the amount of their promises from those who have promised, and contributions from any who desire to contribute and have not already done so. His address is E. White, Barfield, Mornington."

The second Temperance Demonstration which took place on Tuesday night last was a great success. The building was well filled. A. Millis, the Vice-president, presided, and a splendid programme was presented. F. W. Greenwood gave a telling address on The Religious Aspect of the Temperance Question. The address was listened to most attentively from start to finish. Mrs. Ball sang "Bring Home Your Money To-night" most effectively. F. M. Ludbrook gave a good address on The Physical Aspect of Alcohol. This address ought to be given in all our chapels during the coming year. Miss Nellie McClelland sang two solos to the delight of all. The meeting concluded with a duet by Misses Lindsay. The work of the Temperance Committee during the year has been most successful, and we look forward to greater things during the coming year.

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## Sunday School.

Then were there brought unto him little children.  
—Matthew 19: 13.

LESSON FOR APRIL 13.

Peter, Aeneas, and Dorcas.

Acts 9: 32-43.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"Jesus Christ maketh thee whole."  
—Acts 9: 34.



The Apostle Peter is brought before us again in this lesson. He was apparently on a tour among the churches to impart instruction to them. It is just as important to instruct those who have accepted Christ, as it is to preach the gospel to the unsaved. The lesson deals with the events which took place at Lydda in the middle of the plain of Sharon and Joppa on the sea-coast respectively.

### AENEAS CURED.

It is probable that this man was a Christian, for we are told that Peter went down to visit the *saints* at Lydda. At any rate he was a helpless bed-ridden man, and had been so for eight years. How grand must have been to him those words, "Jesus Christ heal thee." Quickly he acted upon them and rose from his bed. A deep impression was made by this miracle on the people, and very many turned to the Lord.

### DORCAS RAISED.

At Joppa this sister in the Lord lived, of whom Luke said, "Full of good works and almsdeeds"—a beautiful statement, and one that should be true of every disciple of the loving Jesus. When she died the brethren sent for Peter; they desired his comfort and sympathy in their loss. When Peter arrived he was taken to see the body, and the weeping widows displayed the garments which the sleeping saint had made for them. After Peter had sent all from the room, and had prayed, through him was wrought the miracle of calling her back to life. Why is it that present day "divine healers" cannot call attention to such incidents among their so-called wonders? What joy must have been caused and what thanksgiving

went up to God because of this restoration! The same result followed here as at Lydda; many turned to the Lord.

THOS. HAGGER.

## From The Field.

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

### New Zealand.

WARKWORTH.—We are pleased to report nine additions during the last month, which give us courage to continue, coming as it does after a season of sowing.

Feb. 23.

J.A.P.

DUNEDIN.—During this week gospel services were held every night in the tent. After the services on Friday night—Bro. Watt speaking—one more decided to unite with us. A special meeting was held to-night after the usual one, when A. F. Turner addressed a large audience.

March 16.

S.J.M.

INVERCARGILL.—Having completed returns for Conference we forward brief report. Membership 1st March, 1901, 90; additions for the year were—letter, 10; faith and baptism, 4; total, 104. Our losses were as follows—letter, 7; discipline, 3; death, 4; where no church exists, 3; lost sight of, 2; total, 19; leaving us with a church roll of 85 members. Bro. Greenhill has decided to close his labors with the church here after 2½ years of peaceful and successful labors.

March 17.

R.B.

### Queensland.

CHILDERS.—I am pleased to report that I am once more among the Kanakas, and that on returning from the South I received a hearty welcome from the Kanaka brethren. I was in hopes that the severe drought that has prevailed here for the last three years would be over by the usual wet season setting in after Christmas, but up to the present no rain has fallen to give any growth to the cane crops, which will be a complete failure this year. This will mean great distress among all those connected with sugar-growing, especially amongst the Kanakas. The latter are not allowed by law to work outside the cane-fields, and when they can not obtain work there they are left in very straitened circumstances. I am exceedingly thankful to the S.S. teachers and scholars in Kermodest and Prospect, and also to the Sunday School in Dunedin, for the assistance they have given to the poor and distressed among the Kanakas. Since my return 12 Kanakas have expressed their desire to follow Christ, and have given in their names as candidates for baptism.

March 19.

J. THOMPSON.

### South Australia.

QUEENSTOWN.—At the close last night one person confessed that Jesus is the Christ.

March 24.

W.M.

NORWOOD.—On Lord's day, March 16th, Bro. H. D. Smith preached at the Tabernacle to large audiences. Yesterday we had splendid meetings. Four were received by faith and obedience, and at the evening service two more confessed Christ.

March 24.

A. C. RANKINE.

NTH. ADELAIDE.—On March 20th, at the invitation of the president of the Women's Bible Class, the members met in the vestry to take tea and spend a social evening together. Mrs. Henshaw expressed her pleasure at being with us again, so improved in health as to be able to continue her work in the Bible Class, over which she has presided so many years. A little time was spent in discussing ways and means by which the interest in the class could be strengthened and the attendance improved. Each member received a gift brought from New Zealand as a souvenir from our president, and then we enjoyed looking at some beautiful views Mrs. Henshaw had brought home with her, some of them portraying the wonders of the hot spring district. Two of our vocalists contributed sacred songs, which added to the pleasure of the evening. A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to our kind president for providing so enjoyable an evening for us, and the hope expressed that she would long be spared to carry on her labors of faith and love in the Master's cause.

March 24.

V.B.T.

WILLUNGA.—To-night we had a very appreciative congregation. Interest still growing. My subject was, "Not Far From the Kingdom."

March 24.

L. H. CROSBY.

CAREW.—Anniversary services in connection with the Carew Sunday School were held on 16th March, at Wamboony. Mr. H. Leng was with us all day. Children's service in the afternoon; recitations and songs; house crowded. Monday, picnic with neighbors and friends, and an enjoyable meeting in the evening. 44 young people and children on the roll, 3 teachers, and record attendance for the year. Rev. 19: 1.

March 24.

R.K.S.

UNLEY.—The Dorcas Society marked the opening of a new session by holding a social on Wednesday last. Bro. Gore presided. The report by secretary, Mrs. Harrison Weir, showed that the sisters had accomplished much good work. Nearly 100 garments had been made besides monetary assistance given. Tribute was paid to the memory of late Sister Burford, who for many years had been president of the society. Bro. John Verco delivered an appropriate address. "Any society claiming to be associated with Jesus Christ must prove to the community that its aim is to do good," said the speaker, and this the Dorcas was doing. Bro. Verco concluded a characteristic address by saying the Dorcas Society was organized goodness a forget-not society, and best of all a society with which God was well pleased. Some excellent singing and refreshments completed a most enjoyable social.

The Sunday School anniversary services held away yesterday. Oswald Charlick was received into fellowship, and Bro. J. Verco address the church on "Faith" in the morning. An overflowing attendance at 3 o'clock, when the service of song, "A Child of Jesus" was rendered by the school. Connective readings were given by Bro. Rogers. Miss Baker presided at the organ, and H. Weir wielded the baton. The various musical items were sweetly rendered. J. E. Thomas preached the gospel to another crowded congregation at night. There was more singing by the children, a special feature being a double duet by four little girls. At the conclusion of the service one came forward and confessed her belief in Jesus as her Saviour.

March 24.

H.W.

DRINK FRY'S COCOA IT IS THE BEST.

## Victoria.

MURRUMBEENA.—The anniversary was celebrated on March 16th, when addresses were delivered in the morning, afternoon and evening. On the following Tuesday evening the usual tea-meeting was held, when the tables were twice filled with guests. An adjournment was then made to the Baptist Church, kindly lent for the occasion, where a well-attended public meeting was held, Bro. C. Newham presiding. The choir from the church at Cheltenham attended, and rendered several anthems. Short addresses were given by several speakers.

March 24.

A.B.

## Obituary.

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

DAVEY.—We regret to report the death of our Sister Davey, sen., who fell asleep in Christ on Sunday, February 9th, after a very short illness. Our sister leaves a family of four daughters and one son, most of whom are members of the church. The deceased, with her husband, was baptised thirty years ago, and has been a consistent follower of her Redeemer ever since. She, with her husband and family, had come to Fremantle six weeks ago from Geelong, where she was well known for her love and good deeds.

Fremantle.

J. H. GIBSON.

## Acknowledgments.

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

## MAORI MISSION COMMITTEE.

From Church, Glorit (Quarterly Contribn.) 0 10 0  
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