

Miss J. Murray

# The Overseas Mission Number of The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN ....



BRIDGE OF COMPASSION  
HEALING

SACRIFICE

LOVE

PREACHING

TEACHING

PRIVILEGED  
PEOPLE

PLENTY  
CLOTHED  
LITERACY  
HEALING  
LIGHT  
LIFE

UNDER PRIVILEGED  
PEOPLE

HUNGER  
NAKEDNESS  
ILLITERACY  
SUFFERING  
DARKNESS  
DEATH

THE GULF  
BETWEEN

"SHARING MEANS  
LIFE"

Remember the Annual Offering

**JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> 1954**

on

A.C. GLOVER



# The SECULAR STATE in INDIA

*Indian Constitution*

*Indian Prime Minister  
and Missions*

Although the term "secular" has been used nowhere in the Constitution of India, nevertheless it was the intention of the framers of the Constitution to establish a secular democratic State. Part III of the Constitution provides for certain fundamental rights to all citizens irrespective of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them.

"Subject to public order, morality and health . . . all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practise and propagate religion.

"Subject to public order, morality and health, every religious denomination or any section thereof shall have the right:

(a) to establish and maintain institutions for religious charitable purposes;

(b) to manage its own affairs in matters of religion;

(c) to own and acquire movable and immovable property; and

(d) to administer such property in accordance with law.

"No religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution wholly maintained out of State funds.

"No person attending any educational institution recognised by the State or receiving aid out of State funds shall be required to take part in any such religious instruction that may be imparted in such institution or attend any religious worship that may be conducted in such institution or in any premises attached thereto unless such person or, if such person is a minor, his guardian, has given his consent thereto.

"No citizen shall be denied admission into any educational institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out of State funds on grounds only of religion, race, caste, language, or any of them.

"All minorities, whether based on religion or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice."

These provisions in the Constitution unmistakably indicate the secular character of the Indian Democratic Republic. The intention is not to establish a State which is opposed to religion, but a State that does not subscribe to, favor, or lend support to any one religion. This principle of secularity all progressive Democratic States have come to accept as an essential feature of their constitutions.

For a country like India, with a composite population professing many different religions, the only possible ideal is that of the Secular State, which observes strict neutrality in all matters concerning religion. Any partiality or special favor shown to the adherents of any one religious persuasion will tend to create group disharmony and sectional strife in the country.—Extract from report N.C.C. Review, India, March, 1954.



**PUNDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU,**  
Prime Minister of India.

Mr. Nehru is believed to have said there was "some misunderstanding" about the activities of Christian bodies in the country. He assured Bishop Pickett that it was not the intention of the government to hinder the work of any mission.

The Katju speech aroused all the Christian churches in India. Valerian Cardinal Cracias—the only Indian to have attained this office in the Roman Catholic Church—went to New Delhi to point out to the government that the Constitution expressly confirmed not only freedom of worship, but also the freedom to propagate religion.

Mr. Nehru thus has virtually reversed the Home Minister's statement in Parliament, which forecast an official probe into the work of foreign missionaries, some of which, said Dr. Katju, were considered bad security risks.

## NEHRU PRAISES CHURCHES.

Mr. Nehru, who received several deputations from different Christian churches, paid tribute to the work of foreign missions, and said that the government could not ignore "a great deal of useful work that has been done in the field of education and rural reconstruction by Christian workers, notably Americans."

The Ministry of External Affairs, which Mr. Nehru heads, now has issued orders that no visiting churchmen are to be turned back. Nevertheless, missionaries who seek to do evangelistic work without social and educational background are likely to be refused visas.

Welcoming the clarification to the government's policy, the late Sarah Chakko, a president of the World Council of Churches, said that any move to restrict activities in the religious field would be unworthy of the government. It was, of course, important to distinguish between those who visited this country for purely religious work and those who might have additional motives. — *Christian Science Monitor*.

THE CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN WESTERN INDIA WILL BE EAGERLY AWAITING OUR RESPONSE TO THEIR APPEAL FOR SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO ENTER AGGRESSIVELY UPON THE NEW INDIANISATION PROGRAMME. WE MUST NOT FAIL THEM.

*Indian Conference—*



## “SHARING MEANS LIFE”

SHARING is not incidental to Christianity; it is imperative. There can be no real expression of the Christian faith without it. Remember how eagerly our Master gave himself *to* men, long before he gave himself *for* them. When, on the eve of Calvary, he took a cup, and said to his disciples, after giving thanks, “Take this, and share it amongst yourselves,” his life had already been shared with men in a way which even that precious symbol of his death cannot fully represent. He knew how much he had to give, and his passion to share it glows through such familiar words as “If any man thirst, let him come to me. . . . I am come that they might have life, and have it to the full.” And ever since, men who have fully opened their hearts to this Man have found how truly his self-sharing has meant life.

A religion which wears his name without sharing his spirit is a sham. Long ago John reminded his readers, “We know that we have crossed the frontier from death to life because we do love our brothers”—only then. The legend of the Crusader who lit a taper with the sacred flame in the Holy Land and sought to keep that flame burning throughout his long journey back to Italy is a significant parable. Only by sharing its light with the needy he met on the way home was he able to preserve it. Once a storm put out his taper, but he hastened back to a widow’s cottage where, with the sacred flame, he had kindled her fire, and it was still burning.

To-day we look back on more than a century and a half of the modern Protestant missionary movement, and think of all who have “crossed the frontier from death to life” because they have loved their brethren in other lands, believing they had something, Someone, unique to share with all men. They have been

unable to rest “while the yearning of his heart for his brethren has been unsatisfied.” And one of the thrilling results of their labors has been that some of the most challenging voices of modern Christendom are being raised in the Younger Churches of what have been mission lands—voices which challenge West as surely as East. For example, while we have for so long deplored our disunity, it is these Younger Churches which have “experimented more boldly than the older in co-operative and union enterprises.” In more ways than one, future generations might well find, with the thrust of materialism in what have so long been nominally “Christian countries”, that we have only preserved the sacred flame by sharing it where we may go and rekindle our own fire.

Meanwhile, the need in many of these lands remains urgent, not only for the basic necessities of life which we ought to be much more ready to share, but also for that Bread of Life we dare not withhold. This issue tells something of the story in India and the New Hebrides. Sunday, July 4, gives us the opportunity to show how sincerely we believe that “sharing means life.”



Historic conference churches of Christ Western India.

This conference accepted the proposal to Indianise the work of the mission. In ten years full responsibility will pass into the hands of the Conference. On Jan. 1 and 2, 1954, the process of Indianisation commenced.



# INDIA REPORTS PROGRESS

## *The Church in India Takes Over*

Dr. L. J. MICHAEL.

For many years missionaries from Australia have been working here with a view to the establishment in this area of churches which would be self-supporting, self-controlled and self-propagating. And while these objectives have not yet been fully realised, huge strides have undoubtedly been made.

There is an ever increasing realisation that the responsibility for carrying the Good News of salvation through Christ to the people of the district devolves upon the local churches and their individual members. And we thank God that a steady increase in the number of capable Indian leaders is taking place.

Though some of the smaller groups have not progressed so far, the larger churches have their own pastors, and are in entire control of their own affairs. They are also moving on close to the goal of self-support, and there is no doubt that an emergency would demonstrate that this was already within grasp.

By this is not meant, of course, that the churches are in a position financially to undertake all the work such as Children's Homes, Schools, Friendship Centres and Hospital, so far carried on by the Mission. For many years they will continue to look to the Australian brotherhood for financial support for this work. These, however, are not the essential things, and even if some unfriendly Government should cut off all outside aid with a stroke of the pen, we believe that the churches would remain, and would give even a more faithful testimony to the saving power of Christ than they are giving now.

This is the reason why Jan. 1, 1954, the date on which the Conference of churches of Christ in Western India assumed responsibility for the whole of the work in "Our India," is such a landmark in its history. All are grateful to the Australian brotherhood for permitting Mr. Anderson to be

Another section of the crowd at the historic Conference on Indianisation—Miss Cameron is seen in the centre of the group, and Miss G. Batterham is on the left. Miss Cameron will come home at the end of the year, after giving nearly 40 years of service to India.

with us during this vital transition period.

The responsibilities are great, and many problems are bound to arise. Let us praise God that the Church in India has taken over. Let us pray that he will steer the way through all difficulties, and make the Indian Church a holy and powerful evangelising force for his glory.

## *Giving One's All*

Hari Waghmodi, Indapur.

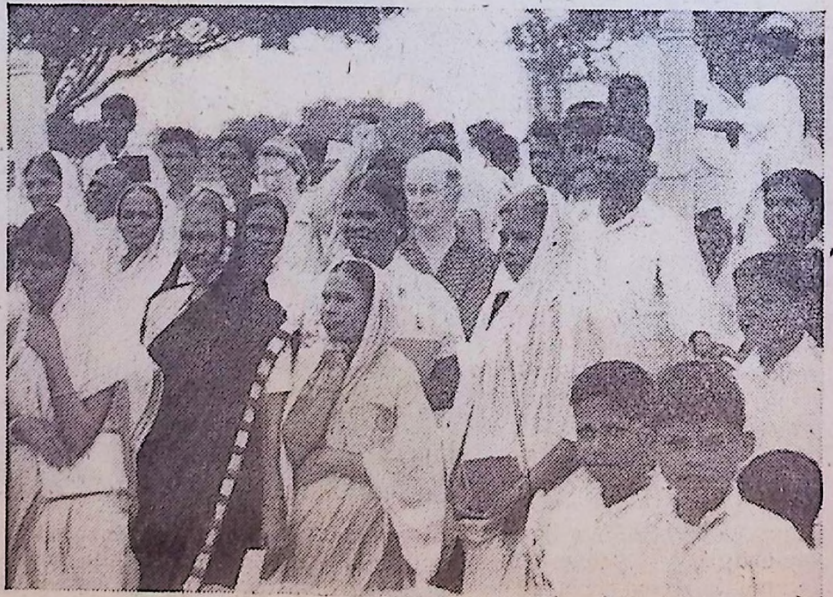
Let me share with you a heart-melting experience that happened during the big jutra of Sangambuwa. While some of our preachers were taking turns to speak at the microphone, I took a handful of Gospel portions, and went into the big crowd to sell them. I came across many kinds of people—some bought the copies, and others refused to buy for various reasons. But among those who bought their copies was a school boy who got it for a reduced price. His story, in short, is as follows:

While I was selling each copy for one anna, i.e., 4 pice, he came to me with 3 pice in his hand to make the bargain. He gave me the reason why he had 1 pice less, saying that his

mother had given him one anna for his sweets and that he had just spent 1 pice out of that. So he wanted the Gospel at a reduced price. But I asked the lad to bring one more pice from his mother and make up the right price. At this answer, the boy like a flash of lightning rushed into the crowd, and within a few moments brought his poor, ragged mother to me. She had nothing more to offer except requests and pleadings. Like the importunate widow, she pleaded insistently for her little boy; so much so, that she even bowed down to touch my feet, and also asked her son to do the same. Now, whose heart will not melt at such a scene! Truly, he got his Gospel for a reduced price. But actually what a price he paid! It was the highest and the best! Like the widow's mite, it could be said of him also, that he gave his all for the Gospel's sake.

## NEW COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

Of the nine members comprising this committee, eight are elected in India. Their names are as follow: B. V. Coventry, Colin V. Thomas, E. W. Heard, Shivaji Jadhev (headmaster, Baramati school), H. M. Waghmodi, Kissen Alhart (preacher-teacher, Dhorja), John Bairagi, Dr. L. J. Michael and Miss F. Cameron. The Federal F.M. secretary, A. Anderson, was in India when these important conferences were held.





# Dhorja Mela

Bruce V. Coventry, Shrigonda.

The sixth Dhorja Mela is over, with the general consensus of opinion that it was the best yet. We commenced holding these meetings at Easter, but decided to change from a fluctuating season, that sometimes clashes with annual exams or hot



At Dhorja, Kissen Alhart (right) and his wife Ruth (left) have charge of the work. Here they have a wide preaching area, a school and a boys' orphan home to look after. During the past year they have had to spend a lot of time distributing milk and grain because of famine conditions. This district is one of our most fruitful areas.

season vacation dates, to a more permanent one, by holding the meetings over the last week end of March each year.

Mr. Schelander, of the Christian Alliance Mission, was our guest speaker. He was born in the country, with the result that his Marathi language is excellent.

The Christians of the area have decided that they want to try to meet all the expenses connected with these meetings. Despite the bad season, many gave from their small stores 8 or more lbs. of jowari, and rupees one. Some non-Christians also contributed. When we made up accounts at the end of the Mela we found that there was a surplus of approx. ½ bag of jowari and Rs. 40 in cash. The surplus grain goes to the Boys' Home, Dhorja, while it was decided to use the surplus Rs. 40 plus the Rs. 50 this year that the Board have been providing for the Mela, to buy some necessary equipment for catering for such a crowd. The Christians are hoping that after this year they will not need to take anything from the Board. For this

great time of fellowship to have any permanency at all, they feel it must stand on its own feet.

The use of the loud speakers meant that the people all over the village were able to hear the messages, which throughout called people to repentance, faith in and acceptance of Christ as Lord and Saviour. I don't think there was a session when there were less than 200 present, and then many heard the messages from some distance away in the village: The attendances were good from the early morning sunrise service following a full night of singing, and a procession through the town at dawn, to the late night meetings which concluded after 10 p.m. People came from near and far, some by bullock cart, some by

cycle, some on foot, and some in our motors.

Following the call at the sunrise meeting, to those who were prepared to follow Christ through the waters of baptism seventeen were baptised in the new shallow open air 6ft. x 3ft. concrete tank. At a really impressive worship service, following the baptismal service, Kisan Master extended the right hand of Christian fellowship to these 17. The gathering around the Lord's Table that day was one of much rejoicing, when so many old and new Christians broke bread together.

As the days pass we feel sure that these times of Christian fellowship are going to do much towards cementing these village brethren into a strong Christian community.

## Replacing Evil With Good

Roy C. Dixon, Baramati.

A while ago I was asked if I would take the Mamladarand, the Judicial Magistrate (head men of Baramati), together with three Congress men to attend a function at a small village about six miles from Baramati. I didn't say "Yes" at first, as I didn't know whether it would be using the time wisely. However, as it turned out, I took them, and I am sure that the time was not wasted.

At the function, the Magistrate discussed with the villagers plans for building a new school. Then he distributed prizes to children who had performed well in the Shringa sports held earlier in the day. He explained to me that the Shringa festival used to be a time when everybody did bad things, but that the present Government is trying to overcome this by introducing clean healthy sports. Also, as was seen on this day, they encourage more children to take part by offering small prizes. So, in his speech, the Magistrate said that they wanted to replace evil with good.

On the way home I said that I agreed with this remark because we were taught in Romans 12: 21, "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good." Then to my surprise, this man, a Hindu, said that he reads two chapters of the New Testament every day. In his early days at Bombay University, he used to read it because of its literacy value, but now reads it for devotion. This gave me an opportunity to speak another word from Ephesians, chapter 6, as we passed a group watching some wrestling by the roadside. (The wrestling was also organised in connection with Shringa sports.) I tried to speak about our spiritual wrestle.

On arrival back at the Magistrate's house, the first thing he did was to

get out his English Bible to show me. So, I opened it at Ephesians, chapter 6, and began to read. Before long, he took over and read the whole chapter aloud. The Magistrate asked me if I could let him have an English Bible for his friend, the new Civil Judge, who had just come to Baramati, as



Girl brides from Tandulwadi village, some of whom were married when five years of age. They know no childhood, and have had little happiness in their lives. Most of them are mere household drudges.

he had been asking for one, and he didn't feel like parting with his own.

I arrived home thanking God for the opportunity given with these leading men of Baramati. We must pray for men like this Magistrate who are reading God's Word, that they may come to a saving knowledge of Christ Jesus.

### OVERSEAS OFFERING.

IF PRESENT PROGRESSIVE POLICY IS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN INDIA AND THE ISLANDS THEN THE OFFERING MUST EXCEED THAT OF PREVIOUS YEARS.



# “HUNGRY” ♦♦

P. M. Coventry, Shrigonda.

“It is quiet this morning without all the children,” said my husband. Milk distribution, which has been going on for four to five months, has been temporarily stopped until after we return from hot season vacation.

We had grown quite accustomed to the chatter and noise of children and adults, as they began coming up the drive every morning at the crack of dawn, each carrying a brass vessel or tin. In the back verandah we would hear the rattle of buckets as the mali (one of the mission employees) prepared for mixing the powdered milk for over two hundred callers.

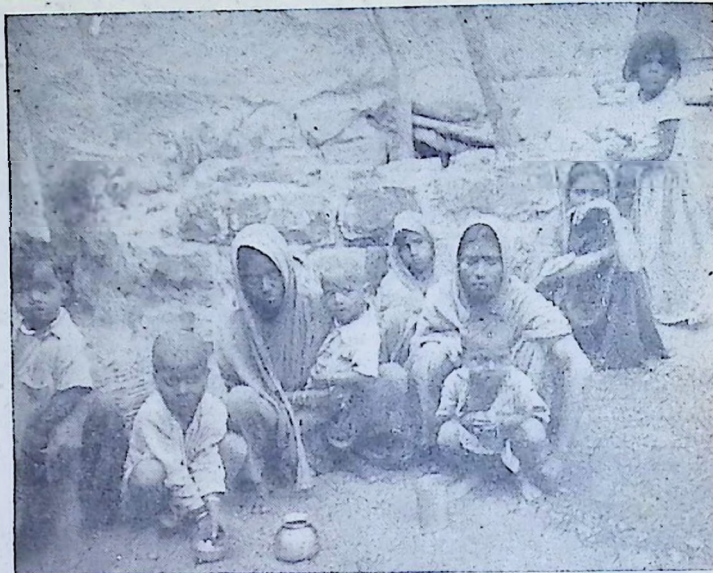
It is by generous gift from America that so much powdered milk has become available for free distribution, and this is only one of many distributing centres in this and other areas.

At first the crowds were rather unruly, and Mr. Coventry organised a “way in” “way out” system for dealing with the situation. Even then it needed a man on each gate to stop people from swarming in around the mali who was serving the milk. Some of the adults wanted their milk in great haste, while some of the children hid behind my washhouse near the back fence or behind another small building to dispose of the first lot of milk into another vessel, and appear again with an empty vessel for a second lot. Latterly, the people did not come in such a rush, and they were also better known to the mali.

Truly, the world is in the hands of the Evil One, for where do we see crowds clamoring thus for the milk of the Word?

After the milk was distributed each morning, there were often some who waited back for medicine for sore eyes or other minor ailments. No matter what help is rendered for the physical needs of the people, it is for their souls' ills that we feel most concerned. Do pray that people will open their hearts to the gospel message, accept Christ, and have a hunger for knowledge concerning eternal things.

and  
Ye  
Fed  
Me”



### DEMONSTRATING THE LOVE OF GOD.

Picture above shows a group of needy people waiting in one of our villages for milk. For a considerable period upwards of one thousand people were helped daily in several villages. Later this number increased, and it was estimated that upwards of two thousand were helped at one stage. The Australian churches sent out over ten tons of foodstuffs, and contributed nearly £6000 to help the needy in India. In Mr. Thomas' article he tells how some of this money was used.

In the picture below, Mr. Thomas and the Indian preacher Daniel Dongre are shown removing the plaster cast from the leg of Shankerao, a Christian man from Bhoze village. This man's village suffered much because of the famine. On one occasion he said to Mr. Thomas:

“I've lost my crop, I've lost my fodder, I've lost my cattle, I've lost my grain reserve (stolen by thieves), I've lost the water in my well, and I have as good as lost my leg, but I have not lost my faith in Christ.” This man had been Christian then for about 2¼ years.

## “The Water of Life” Colin Thomas, Shrigonda.

One of the most essential things for a farmer in this dry and thirsty land, is to possess some means of watering a good portion of his small holding. If he has a well with a good supply of water, then he is able, with a bit of hard work, and a pair of bullocks, to make a living, but without a well, he is a poor man.

Sometimes he has not been able to spend enough on building up the sides of the well, and so it has fallen in. As even a small well may be 15 feet in diameter, and maybe stoned up 15 to 20 feet of its sides, the initial outlay for a poor struggling farmer is too much for him in these days. Seeing that, among our Christian people, of this area, there are many poor farmers in need of some help to set their precious wells in order, that they might better support their families, we have tried to initiate a generally helpful scheme. Last year we were able to help one widow woman, who had not had a crop of her own for years, to build up her well, and clean out the earth which had fallen in. We helped to deepen

the well of another old man, and thus ensured a water supply through the drought. Later, when rain had in some measure replenished the wells, he was able to irrigate more land, and in this way help others who were dependent on him for work so as to get enough to eat.

At the moment we are helping another Christian man to dig down in the bottom of his well, and find a spring of water. His well will also have to be built up, but we are helping at least two big families to struggle through yet another famine time.

Where we are now encamped, one family has already begun to dig for themselves their fallen in well, because we have offered to help them stone up the sides, and make their work worth while. If we had not held out a helping hand they would have had no hope of having their well ready for use. Similarly, another well which is jointly owned by three families will be cleaned out and re-built with just a little help from us. This will make it possible for the poorest of the three families to bear its part of the cost.





# A FRIENDLY WELCOME

Winifred Walker, Dhond.

I would like you to come with us on a visit we recently paid to a little village about three miles from Dhond.

Eleven of our Christian women came from their homes in the hot midday sun, and were glad to meet in our cool bungalow for a refreshing drink, and, most of all, for a word of prayer together before we set out to meet the women and children of this village with the message of life.

We had gathered together some tracts, Gospel portions, charts, and the gramophone with Marathi records, and since we were taken by ambulance, soon arrived at our destination.

Quite a group of people gathered at once, and we made enquiries as to where we could hold a little meeting. As we were being directed, "and followed," to a suitable place, the headmaster of the local school came along, and in a very friendly way, asked if we had come to give medical lectures,

(As far as we know our missionaries have not won any converts from Brahminism, but several contacts are being made with friendly Brahmins. Read this article in conjunction with the one under the picture, written by Hazel Skuce.)

and if so, he would be willing to allow the children to leave school to be present. We told him that we had not come for that reason, but to tell the people something about the Lord Jesus Christ.

We went a little farther on, and were invited by a Brahmin woman to have our meeting on a large clear space just outside her little village home. This being a high-caste home, we asked if all of the village women would be free to come there and listen. She assured us that women of any

caste would be welcome, and spread mats on the ground on which we were to sit. Hers was a very friendly welcome, and we did appreciate it.

Quite a large group of women and children quickly gathered. Keen interest was shown as we played some of the Marathi gramophone records, which give a real message, and then as in turn several of our women spoke. It was grand to hear the message given forth so boldly as they told of all that Christ has saved them from and of what he means to them now. One of our women, who only a few years ago came right out of Hinduism herself, told of what it has meant to her to be saved from idol worship, and all it involves, and now to know true peace and joy and the assurance of sins forgiven as it is in Christ. "What a wonderful Saviour we have."

Many of our hearers took away tracts.

## Vain Worship

G. I. Batterham.

I am writing this sitting on a wall of an arched gateway arrangement on the way up a hill to a temple at the top, where there is a continuous stream of people going to worship a god of stone.

Just below me, is a small altar in charge of two horrible men. As people come up, they break coconuts, leave a piece and some money, bow down, then wend their way to the top. A little further up, is another archway and altar where they repeat the performance. On arrival at the top, they do homage at an altar in the doorway, then go inside and wash the god with water they have brought up from below. The water comes outside through a pipe, and some of them drink it, others just splash a bit on their face. If they die of cholera, they are honored by the god!!! On the main day, they carry huge vessels of water for washing the god, and one would wonder where they got the strength. They dance along with these heavy burdens, and truly look demon-possessed. It is quite horrible to watch.

Nearby there is an endless sound of coconuts being bashed open on the stones.

On my left, are a couple of holy men with a cow which has a lump on the side of its neck, out of which a foot is growing. They tell people it is indeed very holy to have 5 legs, and people believing it all, give them

money, and something for the cow to eat. I was chatting to one of them a while ago, and told him it just looked malformed to me. I thought it a waste of time to try to sell him a Gospel, but he came and asked to buy one, with a small book called *The Way of Salvation*.

It is just astounding to think that people can come here year after year. Some of the people spend all, and

more than their all to come here. We were talking to some women who had walked 15 miles here, and would walk another 15 back to their homes, with their children, cooking utensils, etc.

What are we willing to do for our God? ? ?

We pray that some of the people to whom we have sold Gospels may find the way of salvation and true peace of mind.

## Interested Brahmin Girls

Hazel Skuce.



The Friendship Centre, Baramati, has provided contacts with many groups that would not have been contacted otherwise. Prabha Datte and

Vimal Kaisare are two such contacts. Prabha is an honorary worker at the remand home, Baramati, and is very capable. Vimal studied up to matriculation standard, but her people would not let her sit for the exam., for they felt that if she passed and went on to higher education she would be lost to the Hindu religion. At first she was not permitted to come to the Centre, but finally her people gave way. Both girls are frequent visitors at the bungalow.

Many such girls have lost their faith in the old religions, and are now searching for something that will fill their lives, and give them joy and peace in their hearts.

We have the answer to these young people's needs, and we must put before them the claims of Christ. If we do not win them they will be won to the Communist cause or become agnostic.

We urge all to do their part in sending the gospel to these people.



# ISLANDS RESPONSIVE

## Faithful Native Teachers

R. S. McLean, Aoba.

When we consider the progress that has been made by missionary enterprise in the South Pacific, we should be mindful of the vital part played by the indigenous Church. We should never forget the wonderful way that the native Christians have been used in the winning of their own people.

When Dr. George Brown contemplated the taking of the gospel to New Britain, he went to Fiji to obtain recruits. He spoke to the students at the training college at Navuoa. He told them clearly what it would mean to leave Fiji. Wives and children must be left behind. The people of New Britain were hostile savages. They would face death and might never return to their own islands. The students were told to go away and prayerfully consider the matter. A meeting would be held the next day, when an invitation would be given for them to respond to Dr. Brown's appeal. The next day, the eighty-three students assembled, and when the invitation was given to signify their willingness to go, eighty-three students responded. Six of these were selected.

When the Government Administrator tried to persuade the students not to go, they replied, "Sir, we have fully considered this matter in our hearts; no one has pressed us in any way, we have given ourselves up to do God's work, and our mind to-day, sir, is to go with Mr. Brown. If we live, we live; if we die, we die." Most of these young students died in New Britain.

A similar story could be told of the taking of the gospel to other areas of the South Pacific.

It was the same in our own work. Faithful native teachers threatened with death refused to be daunted by the waving of spears, but went ahead and preached Christ and won a glorious harvest on Pentecost, Maewo and Aoba.

Not only have native brethren been pioneers, but they play a vital part in the strengthening of the island Church. Some of our villages are very isolated, and can only be visited by the missionaries at infrequent intervals. A heavy responsibility rests upon the native pastor. He must call his people to worship, preach the Word, guide the erring one, encourage the weak and comfort the dying.

The work being done by native brethren must receive recognition. We

must be mindful of these workers in our prayers. Let us rejoice in the valuable witness made by our brethren in the Islands.

## Silas

Jack Smith, Pentecost.

Silas is one of our oldest men on Pentecost, and certainly the oldest teacher. He became a Christian early in life on the cane-fields of Queensland, under the guidance of F. Purdy. Later he toured Australia with Mr. Purdy, awaking interest in the new work on Aoba. Silas' most vivid



Silas—Pentecost.

memories of Australia are Ballarat in Victoria—Lake Wendouree and how cold it was there.

After he returned to his island home, he began teaching in his own village on Pentecost. An amusing story is told concerning him. As his people could not read, Silas used to announce the number of the hymn in the service and then move around the whole congregation checking the numbers in their books, thereby teaching them the gospel and how to read at the same time. However, on this day, Silas was moving around checking the numbers, when a girl suddenly caught hold of his arm and announced in a loud voice, "I want to marry you." This was an unheard-of thing, for a woman to have any say regarding the man she was to marry. In due time, however, Silas married this girl, and they lived happily together until she died. Later he married again, and now has quite a large grown-up family, all very active in church work on Pentecost.

Silas was very excited when he

heard that our new workers (Mr. and Mrs. Owen Jones) came from Ballarat, and had quite an enjoyable time talking with them about that city.

## Adjustments

Mrs. O. Jones, Pentecost.

Coming as the wife of a missionary, without any specific training, to an entirely new country with its unfamiliar ways and strange customs, I experience a very deep sense of inadequacy to cope with the situation.

I have come to realise the necessity for a lot of mental adjustments, particularly in my contacts with the people here. It is not right for me to expect the same standard to which I was used in Australia, therefore above everything else I must have love for these people. I have come to realise also that the love I supposed I had as I contemplated coming here is not sufficient: that it must be the love that Jesus Christ can give me.

The ordinary things of life here require adjustments on my part. House-keeping is such a different proposition. I feel sometimes I need to learn to cook over again. A baby needs a lot more care in the tropics. One has to get used to the climate—this heat dries up the energy you have. At Pentecost, particularly, the isolation is a big factor to which to become adjusted. There are so many things that we just take for granted in ordinary civilisation, that at times we miss so much; but I know time will rectify that. The language always presents a problem, people talking all round you, and you cannot understand one word. It makes me feel so much on the fringe of things, and I am looking forward to the time when I will understand this new language.



Young members of missionaries' families, Stephen Finger and Morris Jones.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN



## Returning to Islands

Phyllis J. McLean, Aoba.

As I write this word, we are on the eve of departure, after a very happy time of furlough. It has been great to go about among the churches, to feel such freedom to speak of our Island work, and to know that so many are interested. We are thankful for refreshing times of fellowship with you, for many kindnesses shown us, and for renewed strength. We take back greetings to our Island brethren, and assurance of closer ties with the home churches.

What shall we find, we wonder, when we reach our destination? We look forward to renewing fellowship with fellow-workers, to finding faithfulness among the Island brethren and an increasing knowledge of God's will. We trust that there will be a school of earnest young men, ready and waiting for teaching.

We ask for your prayers that we shall be kept humble, "vessels unto honor, sanctified and meet for the Master's use and prepared unto every good work." For you we shall pray an ever-increasing richness of personal experience, and the faithful and victorious witness of all our churches.

## Needy Ones

A. F. Kennedy, Aoba.

I have often had very frightened children for injections, but never have I had such a display as we had this morning. One man has brought his 3 children, who are covered in yaws, all the way down from the Banks Is. for treatment. On Monday they had their injections with not too much bother. They certainly were afraid, but to-day the oldest boy, about 10



Indigenous Island work. This is a newly formed church group on the island of Tutubai. There are five such churches now and over 100 Christians. This is the work of our Island teachers.

or 11 years, put on a real show. The younger boy ran away, and had to be brought back, but the older one, carried it a bit further, ran away, climbed up a great big banyon tree. His father eventually got him down, I do not know whether by coaxing, or by threat. I thought all the trouble was over, but it had only just commenced. His so called fear turned to rage then, and he bit his father, and fought him, and it was fortunate that his father was strong. It took about six to hold him while I gave him the injection, and then the fact that he had been overcome was just too much for him, and he threw himself around in rage, picking up handfuls of coral, heaving them around, throwing himself around on the ground and knocking himself around to such a degree that I feared for his well being. I was called out, "Sister, you come look quick." I had disregarded it as just temper, but when I saw him almost gasping for breath, I wondered where it would end, and was very relieved to see him get up and stagger away. He then attacked his father's hat, and ran off towards the sea, but eventually, I guess, he would follow his father home. The father went off carrying the little girl on his back, and then the little boy wanted to be picked up too, so he went off carrying the two children, and I guess the third would not be far away at the next meal time at the latest. . . . One of our old women said, "Oh me sorry too much long him Sister, him no more, he look out long altogether." Truly there are some needy folk around us, but we are glad when we can help them.

## Growth

W. M. Waterman, Aoba.

In many homes in Australia, where there is a young family, there is often one part of a wall set aside to mark the growth of the family. It may be behind the kitchen door, or it may be in the back porch, but somewhere, if one scrutinises the wall there will be found tiny pencil marks with initials and perhaps the date. Often mum and dad are included, and the young ones are watching their own growth in comparison with their parents, aspiring to reach that lofty height.

I doubt if this is done here, but there is no doubt that they do grow. In the fifteen months that I have been here little children have grown inches. Some of the young girls, from being dumpy and fat have become tall and slender, and the boys, too, are reaching up higher. I noticed the difference so much after the Christmas vacation that I thought how interesting it would be to have a family wall in the school-house, for my large

family of forty-six children. It is sad, on the other hand, to see one or two who have tuberculosis.

What about their mental growth? This concerns us particularly. Are they growing mentally? Some are growing fairly quickly and absorbing what they are taught; some are growing slowly, but others would seem to have a wasting disease of the mind through a lack of applying themselves to their lessons. One of the greatest problems concerning their ability to learn, is the lack of discipline and interest on the part of the parents. So many children do just what they like, and are seldom corrected.



Primary school, Aoba. Some of Miss Waterman's school girls.

Children compare their height with that of their parents or elder brother or sister. How can we compare their mental growth? To what standard do their attain? That is a problem, and yet as they grow we must keep aiming higher.

It is good to see them growing physically, encouraging to see some growing mentally, but unless they grow spiritually, what is the use of all the teaching and medical attention we can give them? Are not these things a means of feeding their souls that they may grow in grace and a knowledge of the Lord?

We can plant the seed and water it through the strength that God gives, but it is through the working of God's Holy Spirit that the seed germinates, takes root and grows. Will these children commence to grow and then develop a spiritual wasting disease, or will they "come into a unity of faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, into the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ?"

Pray with us that we may be used of God, and that these young people may come to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.



# Meet Our Biblewomen

## BARAMATI

### JIJIBAI JADHEW.

Jijibai's service goes back to the time when Mr. and Mrs. Escott were stationed at Shrigonda. Coming from the Ramabai Mukti Mission, Bai has proved a very faithful worker, and is known throughout the district. If we enter into a new village we always take Jijibai with us, as she is sure to find someone there that she knows. Bai has done a very good work among the women, and she also helps the younger women with the children's classes. It is impossible to estimate the value of the work that Bai has done over the years that have passed.

### SARZABAI JADHEW.

Sarzabai is the youngest of the Bible women, and is also one of our Shrigonda girls. Bai is a trained school teacher, and her teaching talents have



(Take Biblewomen in order from left.)

been used to a great advantage in our children's classes. During December of last year Bai fell sick, but is quite well again. We did have a fear of T.B., but she has been shown clear of that. Sarzabai has also been a great help in the Girls' Camps that we have had. In her home and out among her friends she has shown a good Christian witness. Bai has also been a great help in the work at the Friendship Centre.

### TUNGABADRABAI BHOSLE.

Like Ratnamalabai, Tungabadrabai is also a trained nurse. Both Tungabadrabai and Ratnamalabai take it in turns working in the Welfare Centre in the mornings. We have been very thankful for the faithful service of Bai. While out camping in September Bai fell sick, and had to be taken into the hospital, but is quite well again. The Lord has been very gracious to Bai. Before coming to us Bai was a T.B. case, but she is completely cured now. She is a very good worker among the children, and also for adult literacy. She has spent many hours, even of her own time, in

trying to teach the women to read and write. And this is not an easy task, as I found out. Many hours of work go into it without any results. We are looking forward to many more years of service with Tungabadrabai.

### RATNAMALABAI KAMBLE.

Ratnamalabai has now been working among the women at Baramati for about sixteen years. As well as having her Biblewomen's training, she is also a trained midwife. Bai has done much valuable work among the women, our own Christian women as well as the Hindu women. Over the years she has been a very faithful worker, and I have found her to be a very great help at all times. Ratnamalabai has many broken nights, but she never complains about these, as her service is for her Lord, and Master, and from him she will receive her reward. She has an adopted son, Samuel, who many years ago was left at the Mission, when only a few weeks old, and Bai has given him a lovely Christian home. May the Lord continue to bless her as she serves him in her sphere of service.

## SHRIGONDA

### ANJINIBAI.

For the last eighteen months Bai has been helping Mrs. Thomas in the work out in the Shrigonda Area. Bai has had a very sad and unhappy life, but through it all she has come to a stronger faith in her Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Bai came to us from the Church of England. Bai has proved a very capable worker among the children.

### SITABAI JADHEW.

For many years Sitabai was the Biblewoman at Shrigonda. Last year when the need arose at the little school at Dhorja, she stepped in and took a class. Although most of her day is taken up by school work, she still finds time to go out among the



Anjinibai and Sitabai.

## A SOUND INVESTMENT

NEW SCHOOL UNITS FOR BARAMATI AND NEW WARDS FOR DHOND HAVE BEEN SANCTIONED. MOST OF THIS MONEY IS IN HAND, BUT WE WILL NEED AT LEAST ANOTHER £1000. THE TRUSTEES OF THE CAMPBELL EDWARDS TRUST HAVE OFFERED £500 IF THE BROTHERHOOD, AS AN EXTRA (NOT OFFERING MONEY), DONATE A SIMILAR SUM. THUS YOUR POUND DOUBLES. ARE YOU SATISFIED TO INVEST IN THE LORD'S BUSINESS ON THIS BASIS?

women and children of the village and hold classes. Bai has given many years of faithful service.

## New Areas



Picture below shows an interested group of people from Karjat, a town in the Shrigonda area. Repeatedly they have asked that we place a teacher there, and this is likely to take place immediately. It is an important place, and has a district Judge. The Judge and his wife (they have one son and one daughter) are friendly, and belong to old Jewish families who came to India centuries ago. They retain their interest in the O.T. Scriptures and are now reading the N.T. The Judge is well read, and often entertains our workers.





# here and there

Albert Anderson, Federal F.M. secretary, has selected the special missionary articles and photos featured in this issue. Pressure of material for the remaining pages has forced the suspension of several of our regular features, as well as some Victorian church news, Open Forum letters, and obituaries, to which we shall give priority next week.

The new youth hall at Owen, S.A., was opened on May 1, the key being turned by the oldest church member, Mrs. J. Harkness. 150 sat down to tea following the opening ceremony, and during the evening programme, all present joined in dedicatory act, and heard an address from G. Whiting, Youth Director. Greetings were brought by Ray Ewers, Northern District Conference pres., who also addressed well attended B.S. anniversary services on 2nd. C.Y.F. has been formed, and will meet fortnightly in the new hall. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. H. Freebairn and family in death of her mother, Mrs. Coulls (Hindmarsh). Evening gospel services have recommenced at Avon. At recent Ladies' Guild birthday meeting at Owen, speaker was Sister Hogan. Youth offering amounted to £8/10/- (Owen), £16/10/- (Long Plains), and £5/5/- (Avon).

The first anniversary of the Tarpeena church, S.A., was held on May 2, with a good attendance, visitors being present from the Naracoorte church. F. G. Banks conducted the service. Special singing was rendered by the choir. At the close of the service, one made the good confession, first in the chapel. A fellowship tea followed. Meetings each Sunday are fairly well attended. About 45 meet for B.S. each Sunday morning, with Youth Club and C.E. functioning well. This month the Ladies' Bright Hour will have their first birthday.

Copy for our next issue will close on first mail Thursday, June 10, owing to Queen's Birthday holiday on Monday, June 14.

Great local interest was shown at Mukinbudin, W.A., on May 16, when a splendid, well-furnished building was opened. The opening service was led by H. Fitch (Merredin), whose work as organising secretary of the build-

ing drive was invaluable, F. Griffiths (Kalgoorlie), past preacher in the Eastern Wheatbelt circuit delivered a challenging address. C. H. Hunt (North Perth), first preacher in field, gave talk, and Mrs. Hunt presented children's prizes at afternoon B.S. anniversary. P. E. Perry, minister of the church, spoke at night. Every meeting was crowded. Visitors from the city and other parts of circuit were in attendance. At the tea table, appreciation was expressed to the many whose work and gifts had made possible the debt-free opening of the building.

The church at Echuca, Vic., celebrated its 63rd anniversary and Temple Day on May 30, when J. Searle (Preston) was the guest speaker. A youth choir presented enjoyable music at the evening service. F. Dawson (U.F.M.) showed slides of mission work at a recent prayer meeting. J.C.E. is progressing under leadership of Mrs. Frencham.

R. W. Graham, Qld. sec. for Federal Conference, reports that registrations are coming in well for the ten-days' Northern Tour. Remember that registrations for this trip must be made by June 30.

The next meeting of the Victorian Ministers' Wives' Assn. will be held in the Swanston-st. lecture hall on Friday, June 18, at 2 p.m. As this is the annual meeting, all members are asked to attend.

Forty-eighth church anniversary on May 30 climaxed a month's special meetings at Hornsby, N.S.W. H. Robson (Newcastle) was guest speaker, and an excellent P.S.A. preceded the tea, enjoyed by over 100, which was prepared by the Sisters' Fellowship. Two challenging films were screened at 6 p.m., followed by song service and evening meeting, in which K. R. Fennell was assisted by Mr. Baker (solo) and Mr. and Mrs. Cardwell (duet).

Induction of A. R. Lloyd to the ministry of the Carnegie church, Vic., on May 30, coincided with the church's 41st anniversary. There were attendances of 128 and 93, with S. Neighbour (Conf. Pres.) conducting the morning induction, and A. R. Mudge presiding. Greetings included one from A. P.

Wilson, a past preacher. Soloists were Mrs. G. Manning (morning) and Mrs. R. Hindman (evening). The chapel was open the previous day for prayer and meditation, and the reception of Temple Day gifts, which are expected to total £200.

At an impressive service on May 29, H. Walmsley was inducted as the first resident minister of the church at Tamworth, N.S.W. The charge to the preacher was delivered by E. F. G. McIlhagger (Inverell), and that to the congregation by the N.S.W. President, S. Laney. Other church representatives and civic authorities were also present. An informal supper followed the service.

G. R. Thompson has received acknowledgment from Mr. Collings, sec. Flying Doctor Services, for the sum of £5/9/-, nett proceeds of a film night held at Essendon church, Vic., by Newmarket-Essendon District Conference.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Luff concluded their ministry with the church at Margaret-st., Launceston, on May 30. The chapel was almost full (170) for the gospel meeting. Following this service a farewell fellowship hour was held in the chapel. The secretary and Mrs. Allen spoke of the work of Mr. and Mrs. Luff with the church, and expressed appreciation on behalf of officers and auxiliaries. Other speakers represented the B.&F.B.S., Launceston City Mission and Launceston Council of Churches. Roy Wilson spoke on behalf of the Invermay and Sandhill churches. Special items were rendered by the choir. The church elder chaired the meeting, and presented Mr. and Mrs. Luff with a wallet of notes. Mr. and Mrs. Luff responded suitably, and the evening closed with supper in the school hall. Mr. and Mrs. Luff left Launceston on June 1 for a holiday in Adelaide prior to taking up the work at Coburg, Vic.

The church at Cheltenham, Vic., celebrated its 97th anniversary on May 30. The chapel was crowded for both services. C. G. Taylor gave address at morning service, with fitting reference to pioneers of the church. Greeting was received from past preacher J. E. Allan, also from aged sister, Mrs. McDonald. Doug. Nicholls was evening speaker, and after the service showed 2 films on aborigine life. Special singing for use in Mr. Nicholls' work was recorded on wire recorder. H. Chipman, asst. public trustee, spoke to 27 men at recent Men's Fellowship meeting.

K. A. Jones has just returned to Melbourne from some extensive deputation work in Western Australia in the interests of the Federal College of the Bible.





# INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

## Discipleship

Kenneth Lugdon, Graeme McIntyre, Fred Morrison and David Waters, Doncaster, Vic.

Gwen Swindly, Ormond, Vic. Fred Duthie, Maidstone, Vic.

Mrs. C. Andrews, Jim Andrews, Betty and Bob Castles, Kyneton, Vic.

Ruth Seiner, Kalgoorlie, W.A. Helen Streader, Swan Hill, Vic.

Ruth Fleet, Woorinen, Vic.

Brian Bushell, Box Hill, Vic.

John Vertigan and Alan Miller, Bambra-rd., Caulfield, Vic.

Fay Smith, Tarpeena, S.A.

Wilma Ayton and Wendy Hore, Preston, Vic.

Rosemary Ellison, North Essendon, Vic.

Janice Moreland and Judith Snowfoot, East Kew, Vic.

Verna Parker, Balaklava, S.A.

## Membership

Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Lloyd, David and John, from Coburg, Vic., to Carnegie, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. and Ruth Bover, from Ringwood, Vic., to Box Hill, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrie, snr., from Prospect, S.A., to Kilburn, S.A.

Thelma Wesley to Kilburn, S.A. Sheila Walker, from Warrnambool, Vic., to Shepparton, Vic.

Mrs. Turner, Les., Kevin and Gwen, to East Kew, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. L. McCredan, James Boyes, Beverley Paterson and Bronwyn Quick, to Wattle Park, Vic.

## Marriage

Natalie Pope to Roy Ling, Hawthorn, S.A.

## Fallen Asleep

Mrs. Schofield, Marrickville, N.S.W.

Mrs. L. Coulls, Hindmarsh, S.A.

Mr. Tanner, Box Hill, Vic.

Mrs. C. Smith, Northcote, Vic.

W. McCallum, Northcote, Vic.

Mr. Rogers, Preston, Vic.

W. Galrns, Ormond, Vic.

Mr. Stevenson, snr. (late of Portland, Vic.), Mt. Evelyn, Vic. Peter John Morrison, Latrobe-terr., Geelong, Vic.

## Tasmania

Collins-st., Hobart (H. W. Street).—Youth month concluded on May 30 with church parade of B.S. scholars and members of youth auxiliaries, and flannelgraph talk. B.S. was shocked by sudden-accidental death of scholar, Rodney Williams. Dorcas American Tea recently raised over £5 for carpet fund. Morning meetings are well attended, but gospel service attendances are causing concern. B.S. Cradle Roll recently increased by 3.

## Western Australia

Kalgoorlie (F. H. Griffiths). — Enthusiasm is shown in mid-week prayer meetings. Ray Vincent (Perth) conducted meetings during absence of preacher at Mukinbudin. He also spoke at Men's Brotherhood, which later entertained B.S. parents and friends. Roger Green conducted week of "Happy Hours," and spoke to church. K. Jones (C.O.B.) spoke of College work one evening. J.C.E. and I.C.E. held special meetings honoring mothers. B.S. also held special session, including calling of Cradle Roll and presentations of bouquets and texts. Easter youth camp was most successful.

## Queensland

Kingaroy (P. French).—B.S. picnic was held on May 3. Competition has just concluded in B.S., resulting in 4 new scholars. Church service was broadcast over 4SB on 16th. Preacher was guest speaker at Chinchilla C.E. rally on 30th. Local members occupied pulpit during absence of preacher. Prayer and Bible study meetings are held on alternate Wednesday evenings.

Mackay.—Mr. Paddon (Rockhampton) took both services on May 2, after officiating on previous day at wedding of Miss Burston and H. Sedgman (Vic.). Mr. Sedgman conducted both services on May 9. S. Vanham (Conf. Pres.) and K. Horne (Youth Director) spent busy week with church, May 18-24, conducting Sunday and week night services, and "Happy Hour" meetings with the children, at which numbers grew from 33 to 63. Fellowship with all these brethren has been most enjoyable. B.S. picnic was held at "the harbor" on May 3, and two new scholars have recently been gained for school. An "impromptu" children's concert and happy social evening have been enjoyed over past month.

## New South Wales

Granville (C. Terry).—Mr. Hillyer (Y.P.D.) presented B.S. with two flames in current Torch Competition on May 23. Visitors for gospel service were Mr. and Mrs. M. Flint (Gosford-Wyoming circuit). Church has benefited from extensive visitation carried out by preacher, who, during College vacation has given full time service. At happy evening Sister Jean Martin was given a farewell on May 25 prior to departure for Dunedin, N.Z., to further her nursing experience. For past few months Jean has been a sister at Rachel Forster Hospital, Sydney. All services have been well attended. Mr. Wald, visiting American preacher, gave gospel address on evening of 30th.

Marrickville (P. E. Thomas, B.A.).—Preacher and wife have returned from holidays. At last Men's Fellowship meeting J. Moyes, well known cricket commentator, was guest speaker.

Mosman.—On morning of May 23 speaker was G. Brown (North Sydney) and visitors included Mr. and Mrs. Wilkie (Mitcham, Vic.). At evening service C. d'Evelynes gave message, K. Holt (Oakleigh, Vic.) was present with friend, hitch-hiking around Australia. On May 19 combined prayer and fellowship meeting was held at Seaforth. On 30th V. Muir, B.S. supt., and C. d'Evelynes were speakers.

Hornsby (K. R. Fennell). — Mr. Matthews spoke at prayer meeting on May 26 on work of H.M. Students from Woolwich conducted evangelistic rally on 19th, when K. Beadle gave address. At circuit officers' meeting on 31st, Mr. Glazier was re-elected circuit sec., and Mr. Collins asst. sec. Sisters' Fellowship was represented at Chatswood Ladies' Fellowship on June 1.

## South Australia

Kilburn (H. G. Norris).—B.S. attendance on May 30 was 221, with 3 new scholars. Church is encouraged by record attendances at all services, and interest of those contacted by preacher. Ladies' Guild and youth auxiliaries report well attended meetings. Recent visitors included Mrs. Don Beller and Jill.

Hindmarsh (J. E. Shipway).—Recent service conducted by Young Married Ladies' Fellowship was well attended. They formed a choir, presented individual items, and address was given by Mrs. E. Frost. Sympathy of church is extended A. E. Caudle in loss of his wife, and also to family of late Mrs. L. Coulls. Mrs. Geo. Marsh, in hospital, is improving. Dorcas Society



held annual meeting on May 26, when Mrs. Bishop gave travel talk, and Mrs. Russell was soloiste. Presentation of a marcasite brooch was made to Miss Allan, who is leaving district, and who has been sec. of society for 24 years. Miss Allan thanked ladies, and expressed pleasure in work over years.

**Hawthorn.** — Women's Fellowship held social evening on May 25. Much sickness prevails, Mesdames Colin Butler, Eagle, Bauer, Wilson and Mr. Gloyn are all improving in health. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Harper in loss of her son Jack, Laurie Parker in loss of his mother, and to Mrs. Gloyn and Mrs. Coombe in the loss of their sister, Mrs. Hunt (Yarcowie). Mrs. L. Stevenson is welcome addition to school teaching staff. Adult Bible class is under leadership of Mr. Schroeder. Mrs. Nell Coventry is visiting W.A. on holidays. Beth Wordie has been accepted for work with Sudan Mission. Parcels have been sent to Dorothy Cornelius (Japan), Mr. and Mrs. Rowland Butler (Singapore, C.I.M.), Bruce and Pat Coventry (India), all our own members. Attendance averages are 130 (morning) and 100 (evening). Local members are assisting with services at Edwards-town.

**Grote-st., Adelaide** (A. W. C. Candy).—Support of youth movements during May was encouraging. Evening was spent at home of Miss Matthews to raise money for missions. Ladies of Dorcas Society have made clothes for boys of Carnarvon Mission. Organ fund has reached £400. Lecture hall ceiling damaged in earthquake has been repaired and hall repainted. On May 23 morning service was broadcast over 5KA.

**Balaklava** (D. G. Hammer).—Ladies have raised £34 towards Northern District Conference appeal for Pt. Lincoln chapel seats. On May 25 other ladies' organisations of district were invited to hear Mrs. Lennox (Fullarton) speak of her Bolivian experiences. About 100 were present. 2 B.S. scholars made their decision on 30th. Roofing of new manse is complete.

## Victoria

**Bayswater** (R. Ryall). — Farewell social evening was tendered to Mr. and Mrs. Irwin and family prior to departure for Pakenham. A Hand-asyde-made presentation on behalf of church. W. E. Quirk addressed church on morning of May 9. Preacher exchanged pulpits with B. Richards (Montrose) on 16th. Combined churches' meeting was held on evening of 16th, our preacher being speaker.

**Red Hill** (L. Christensen). — On May 22 a surprise party was given to

## Commonwealth Campaign Opens at Lygon-st.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Rutherford arrived in Melbourne late Sunday night, May 30, and within a few hours had begun their whirlwind campaign in which (as Mr. Rutherford laughingly told his Lygon-st. audience the next night) out of 90 days he has "one free day"!

Melbourne preachers gathered in good numbers on the Monday afternoon to hear Mr. Rutherford outline his campaign, and urge their support in encouraging the men of the churches to attend the meetings. His friendly informality and clear-cut programme both made an instant appeal, as did his frequent flashes of humor.

At 6 p.m., Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford were the guests of the Chairman of the Federal Executive (Principal E. Lyall Williams) and Mrs. Williams at a dinner, to which representatives of brotherhood work and those who had sponsored the Commonwealth Campaign had also been invited. The U.S. Consul in Victoria (Givon Parsons) and Mrs. Parsons were also present, both at the dinner and the later public meeting. They are both members of our American brotherhood, and keenly interested in the type of programme Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford are advocating. The Federal Secretary, Howard Earle, introduced the rest of the assembly to Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford, who made brief replies of appreciation.

An enthusiastic meeting followed in the Lygon-st. chapel, when Principal Williams presided, B. J. Combridge led in prayer, and the Victorian-Tasmanian Presidents (Mrs. Ward and S. Neighbour) extended brotherhood welcomes to our visitors. Greetings were received from a number of brotherhood leaders, notably the Federal President (C. R. Burdeu) and Mrs. Burdeu. A most enjoyable feature of the evening was the singing of the Churches of Christ Choral Society, under the leadership of Valentine Woff. Three anthems were rendered—"And the Glory," "O, Saviour of the World," and "Hallelujah Chorus" (the last sung as a thrilling climax

to the meeting). Misses E. Pittman (organ) and W. Lee (piano) were accompanists.

In her response to the welcome and the flowers handed her by Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Rutherford spoke of her joy in coming to Australia, after all her husband had been telling her about the land and its people ever since the World Convention. She passed on a number of personal greetings from American church women leaders, notably Jessie Trout, well remembered from her World Convention visit. There were greetings also from the home church of the Rutherfords, the "baby" church in Indianapolis (the city second to Melbourne in the number of churches of our brotherhood within its boundaries).

Mark Rutherford soon revealed the driving conviction behind his mission when he said, "Every man who has named Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour is duty bound to be a minister of the gospel of Christ, even if he is unordained." Speaking as a "layman" he said, "There is no distinction between the ministry and the laity, but sometimes we make a distinction by our lack of activity." He then proceeded to outline the fourfold programme of activity for men of the church which will be thrust home throughout the meetings of the Campaign. "The Church is the only institution on earth that has been able to keep going with only twenty-five per cent. of its membership making any contribution," he added, pointing out what could happen if more and more church men awoke to their individual responsibility to do something for Christ and his Church. "This should be the Church's finest hour," he concluded, "or this generation will see civilisation vanish from the face of the earth." T. R. Morris led the congregation, with hands joined, in a dedicatory prayer.

On that challenging note ended a day which augurs well for the next three months of the Commonwealth Campaign.

Mr. and Mrs. E. White, who celebrated 40th wedding anniversary. On 23rd H. Earle (Surrey Hills) was morning speaker, and N. Brown and A. Salmon conducted gospel service. Mrs. D. Holmes rendered solo. K. Torney led song service.

**Kyneton** (D. Oakes).—B.S. anniversary was held on Apl. 25, when R. C. Bolduan was guest speaker. Latter family have left to reside in Bendigo. Married woman and 3 B.S. scholars confessed Christ recently. R. W.

Goudie (Hamilton) and G. Goudie conducted services on May 16. Four Hamilton Goudies gave appreciated musical items on 2 Sundays. Mrs. Blackwell is recovering from illness.

**Ormond** (F. E. Buckingham).—Average breaking bread for May was 108. B.S. attendance on 30th reached a record of 219, 120 attended worship service, total for day breaking bread was 117. Building of new Memorial Chapel begins mid-June. Sis. Hall, Elckie and Mr. Ritchie have returned



after illness. G.C.C. have commenced an "organ fund," and raised £6 on 1st evening. P.B.P. basketball team is having winning season.

**Ararat (R. J. Duckett).**—Attendances at all meetings are encouraging. B.S. attendance is now approx. 100. Bus service for scholars has been extended to include all housing areas. Scholars are being won for Christ, and number have been baptised lately. Films are screened 1st Sunday in month, and are attracting strangers to church. Young converts meet at home of preacher once a month for tea and study. Mr. Welsh has resigned as treasurer after 14 years' service. Officers' board gave him presentation in recognition of his work. Mrs. Howlett is ill. Mrs. Biggin and Mrs. Boyle have returned from holidays. Mid-week prayer meetings are well attended. Officers have been working on fence and clearing grounds. June 6 was every member present Sunday.

**Bentleigh (J. Wiltshire).**—On May 16, 50 men had tea and listened to messages by T. Keneley and A. Beddome. Week of Missionary Conference commenced on May 25. Five societies were represented, telling their story in word and picture. Questions were answered at each session. Thank-offering, to be divided between these societies was just on £60. On 30th, D. Hopkins spoke at 11 a.m. Soloists at evening meetings have been Mr. and Mrs. M. Woff, R. Price and D. Hopkins. Mr. and Mrs. Waters (Dareton, N.S.W.) have been visitors.

**Balwyn (J. E. Brooke).**—During past 3 weeks attendances at morning service have averaged 103. Speakers have included F. B. Burt (Doncaster) and D. Mansell (Kew). Preacher conducted services at Doncaster, East Kew and Bambra-rd. churches during this period. During May "family month" was featured, special addresses being given by preacher at gospel meetings, and "For Every Child" was screened. Feature of series was singing by Hall family, Mr. and Mrs. Hall and sons Keith and Ralph. Chapel has been repainted through continued support of Church Building Fund. Team of Y.P. assisted in services of Shepparton church on 23rd. James Lacey, foundation member of church, is improving after illness.

**Maidstone (E. H. Randall).**—5th anniversary meetings of church were held on May 30. At well attended morning meeting Mr. Waddingham gave address. Visitors included old members in Oliver and Wakefield families. In afternoon about 150 were present, when Doug. Nicholls spoke. He was assisted by Fitzroy aborigine choir, and two members of choir play-

ed on gum leaf. Offering for school hall fund amounted to £7. Attendance at evening service was 66. Solos were rendered by Harold Easton. Prior to anniversary services ladies scrubbed church, and the P.B.P. polished furniture, while two of the Pfeifer boys repaired damaged kinder furniture.

**Harcourt (R. Wilson).**—On May 6 Women's Fellowship celebrated 2nd birthday. Visitors were present from Bendigo and Castlemaine, making approx. attendance of 50. Mrs. Milligan presided over devotional service, with address and film given by Mr. and Mrs. Smith on work in Islands. Items were rendered by visiting artists. Mrs. Smith cut cake made by Mrs. Farrar. Special afternoon service was held on Mother's Day, when building was full to capacity. Mr. Clinton (Hamp-ton) made trip between services to give address at afternoon gathering. Kinder scholars presented mothers with gifts, and G.C.C. served afternoon tea. Visitors on 16th were Mr. and Mrs. E. Broad and family (Pyramid Hill). There is sickness among members. Mr. and Mrs. A. Carr have returned home from hospital.

#### BIRTH.

**THOMPSON (Homewood).** — On May 31, at St. Andrew's, East Melbourne, to Mary and Ross, 53 Ardyne-st., Murrumbeena, a son.—Philip Edward.

#### IN MEMORIAM.

**ALLAN.**—In loving memory of our dear husband and father, George, passed away June 12, 1946.

"Ever Remembered."

—Inserted by his loving wife and family.

**McKAY.**—Affectionate memories of my devoted wife and loved mother and nana, Gertrude (Gis), who fell asleep June 3, 1953.

—Ever remembered by a loving husband and family.

**BARNDEN.**—Memories of a loving and dearly loved husband and father, who passed away June 10, 1952.

"With Christ which is far better."

#### BEREAVEMENT NOTICE.

**SAUNDERS.**—To all relatives and Christian friends, Mrs. Elizabeth Saunders and daughter, Valma, would like to express their sincerest thanks for telegrams, letters, cards, floral tributes and personal expressions of sympathy during their recent sudden sorrow. Will all please accept this as a personal acknowledgment of our deepest gratitude.

No. 7 Denver-cres., Elsternwick.

#### ENGAGEMENT.

**SHERRIFF-FRASER.** — The engagement is announced of June Mary, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Sherriff, 69 York-st., Ballarat, to Aleck Edward, third son of Mr. and Mrs. N. Fraser, 24 Larter-st., East Ballarat, Vic.

#### ATTEND FEDERAL CONFERENCE—BRISBANE.

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AUGUST 27 — SEPTEMBER 5

Plan your Brisbane visit to include beautiful Lismore. Mighty inspirational services. Send your application in for hospitality now!

Minister: A. C. Caldicott.

Secretary: R. Wotherspoon.

Ballina-rd., Goonellabah, Lismore.

#### SITUATIONS VACANT.

Wanted companionable help for elderly lady living in Toorak, willing to do light housework, cook kept. For fuller particulars apply by letter, with personal references to "C.H.," c/o Austral Printing Co. Ltd., 528 Elizabeth-st., Melbourne.

Wanted 2 girls, 2 men, assist in Country Guest House, Queen's Birthday week-end. Further particulars. R. Vautier, Marysville 1.

#### ACCOMMODATION WANTED.

Young man, 21 years, blind, able to care for self, requires board in Melbourne, preferably south of Yarra, excellent references. Reply, C. Minns, Wilson-st., Berwick.

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An Evangelical Rally featuring the testimonies of 3 Christian League footballers.

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Swanston-st. church of Christ,  
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#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

R. E. Pritchard (preacher, Nedlands-Shenton Park churches), 15 Kanimblard, Hollywood, W.A. 'Phone WM 3010.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN