

Murray

THE AUSTRALIAN

# Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

## New South Wales Newsletter

Because of the interest of the Australian brotherhood as a whole, and because of our own rapidly developing mission work among the Aborigines, it will be enlightening to see what is being done for the Aborigines in parts of New South Wales.

The exact number of Aborigines in New South Wales is not known, but a rough estimate puts the total at 12,000, of whom less than ten per cent. are full-bloods.

The Aborigine Welfare Board, we are assured, never loses sight of the objective of properly housing the whole Aborigine population. One station manager claims that, "If you could solve the housing problem, you could assimilate thousands of Aborigines immediately." On one station, 312 persons are packed into 34 houses.

This is far from general, but it is interesting to know that some Aborigines, working as shearers, earn as much as £80 or £90 a week in the season. Some others working on the railways as fitters earn £15 or £16 a week. One of these, we are told, started in a locomotive shed and graduated to fireman. In one centre, we are told, "that tenders will close on August 16 for the erection of a sawmill which will employ only Aborigines, and will give employment to 15 or 16 men."

According to the writer of this series of articles, one of the greatest problems is the liquor problem. On this matter, opinions differ sharply. The Aborigine Protection Act prohibits anyone from giving, selling or supplying liquor to Aborigines. The general feeling seems to be that in order to assimilate the Aborigine it will be necessary to repeal

that section of the Act, in order to allow him to obtain liquor.

Summing up the matter the correspondent says, "After scores of conversations with responsible men who have first-hand knowledge of the situation, I myself would plump for the repeal of the prohibition, because I doubt whether the result could be worse than it is now." One North Coast manager rather significantly says, "If there were no larrikin whites, there would be no drinking problem."

It certainly makes one wonder why the first essential to make a native civilised, and to assimilate Aborigines, is to give them white man's "booze."

### Y.P.D. NEWS.

It was most gratifying to all concerned to know that there were record entries for the recent Scripture Examinations. Now incorporated in the exams are Bible Drill, Mission Drill and Temperance Drill. Questions are taken from the studies in Austral Graded Lessons.

Churches, groups, and individuals are helping to provide for the Illawarra Youth Centre. The church at Burwood recently held a church camp at Illawarra. Appreciation of the Youth Centre was shown in a practical way, when the church resolved to erect a cabin. For this purpose an offering was taken on July 17, which resulted in the total of £280. It is to be hoped that others will follow suit.

### H.M.C. NEWS.

Several new centres have been opened up of late, one of which is Holroyd; just beyond Parramatta. It is the only church in the district holding evening meetings. Already the

attendances have been up to 28. The Bible School enrolment is also 28, with possibilities of greater numbers. The Youth Director will hold a Happy Hour for one week, from August 22.

It is reported that Dubbo has intense growing pains. The need is most urgent for another building. The number of young people connected with the church makes a full-time preacher imperative. Lack of finance is one of the difficulties. In this field, as in many others, men of the pioneering spirit, who are willing to make sacrifices for Christ, are the men needed. A big city with big possibilities awaits the man.

Yennora is another new field. This group of disciples is having a time of ingathering, and plans are in progress for expansion. Under God's blessing the work is growing rapidly. A student from Woolwich College is leading the work.

After some years of faithful witness for Christ, the church at Fenshurst is about to open a meeting place in a central position. This will increase the possibilities and likewise the responsibilities of this loyal group of New Testament Christians.

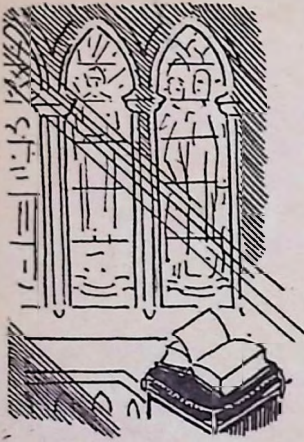
In an attempt to stimulate gospel preaching, the H.M.C. recently arranged four Thursday night meetings, when lectures were given by E. C. Hinrichsen, R. V. Amos, Ben Ewing and Jim Duffey—the latter two from O.A.C. These sessions were greatly appreciated, a desire being expressed for a repeat.

E. C. Hinrichsen has been very ill again, and after leaving the Auburn District Hospital, went to Camden Rest Home. There he took ill again, and at time of writing this, is in Camden Hospital. —Ethelbert Davis.



# THE LIVING WORD

## Studies on the planned Sunday morning readings



Sunday, Sept. 11

### OLD TESTAMENT

Psalms 34: 1-10.

This psalm is the song of one who knew fear and troubles. God delivered him from adverse circumstances—"the things round about him." Now he sings with exultation of "the angel of the Lord" encamped around him. The man who looks to God is protected by God's unseen power.

#### Commentary.

"At all times . . ." (v. 1). — The testimony of a trust that triumphs, of a grateful heart, whether circumstances are favorable or not.

"With me . . . together" (v. 3). — Mutual enrichment comes from corporate worship.

"Looked . . . were lightened" (v. 5). — "Look to him and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed." (R.S.V.)

"Encampment" (v. 7). — a strong military figure of speech.

V. 8. — His own experience leads him to summon others, "Come and see!"

V. 9. — Faith in God cannot expect material plenty and success; many of God's finest people have lacked prosperity.

#### Suggested Theme.

##### "RADIANT RELIGION"

We may take v. 5 as the key verse to this passage: "Look to him and be radiant, so your faces shall never be ashamed." The psalmist had known terrors (v. 4) and troubles (v. 6) but out of them all the Lord delivered him. Christians can never take this as a guarantee of trouble-free existence. T. R. Glover described many first century Christians as being "absurdly happy and always getting into trouble."

#### I. THE MARK OF REAL RELIGION.

(a) The keyword of the New Testament is "joy." Would the average company of twentieth century Christians give this impression? Are Christians "absurdly happy"? Of course, superficial optimism, flippant cheeriness, some forms of religious exuberance are absurd, the mark of the immature and the shallow.

(b) Joy is insight.

"With an eye made quiet by the power

Of harmony, and the deep power of joy,

We see into the life of things."

The Christian gospel is realism. It looks evil full in the face. It sees life steadily and sees it whole. Christians are the trustees of the only gospel of joy in the world today.

#### II. THE SOURCE OF RADIANT LIVING.

(a) The psalmist traces joyous living to eyes that look on God. "It is the vision of God at the centre of life and penetrating it to the circumference which releases latent joy."

(b) This look must be more than a casual glance. The frustration which shows in many Christian lives is due to intermittent glimpses of God, an irreverent disregard for common worship (v. 3), failure to cultivate habits of prayer and the study of God's word. We magnify our troubles, God recedes. "The look on God which delivers us from fear and gloom is the long look of a lifetime." For the Christian it is a look at the world through the eyes of Jesus. In him our joy is full. (John 15: 11.)

### NEW TESTAMENT

Philippians 2: 17-30.

From the two great pictures of Christ in his humiliation and ascension (2: 1-11) Paul turns to the companions and events of his prison experience. The details of human life are seen in the context of the Christian fellowship. In them he sees the guiding hand of God.

#### Commentary.

V. 17. — If his fears are realised, Paul is ready to be sacrificed. In this metaphor he "thinks of the Philippians as the priests, their Christian achievements as their sacrifice, his own possible martyr death as the accompanying liberation."

Vv. 19-23. — Note the contrast between the steadfast Timothy and Paul's unreliable associates, Paul's tender regard (v. 20) his recognition of Timothy's service (v. 22).

V. 24. — Hope struggles to the surface.

V. 25-30. — Epaphroditus, messenger sent to Paul by the Philippians to help him in distress, had fallen ill, become homesick, had risked his life (a metaphor from gambling "staked his life").

#### Suggested Theme.

##### "THREE GOOD COMPANIONS"

Paul, Timothy, Epaphroditus, main characters in the drama; the scene, the Roman prison; the backdrop, the God-denying, God-hating world; the lighting effects—trust, hope, courage, sympathy in common danger, toll and suffering; others in the cast, the Philippian Christians anxious for the

safety of their leader, practical in their expressions of tender affection, and the unreliable associates, villainously selfish in the hour of need. Look a little more closely at the three good companions.

#### I. PAUL THE PRISONER.

(a) His unwavering faith (v. 19, 24). Prisons are depressing places. For the unjustly condemned, self-pity, hopelessness and bitterness could deepen depression. Not so with this Christian hero. To be sure, he had disappointments (v. 21) and sorrows (v. 28), yet his faith in the Lord lifted him above them. He looked to God and was radiant (v. 17).

(b) His sense of fellowship. Note in this passage his reference to the Philippian church. Paul was no "rugged individualist"; he drew strength from the ties of the Church. Note also the practical expression of fellowship.

#### II. TIMOTHY, MESSENGER TO THE PHILIPPIANS.

(a) Paul shows many times in his letters the great love he had for this young convert. He regards him affectionately not only as a son, but as servant. The aged apostle, the youthful helper. The Church needs both age and youth in its service; the one can exert wholesome influences upon the other.

(b) Genuinely anxious for your welfare. No other kind of ministry whether of preacher, elder, deacon, Bible School teacher, is acceptable. Timothy had established a reputation for reliability.

#### III. EPAPHRODITUS, MESSENGER FROM THE PHILIPPIANS.

(a) Note Paul's recognition of this representative. Epaphroditus was a member of the Philippian church. Sent to Rome with gifts for Paul he was an ambassador on a goodwill mission. Paul received him as such and was overwhelmed by the generosity and care shown by the Philippian Christians. So must many in Europe and Asia feel today as from across the world, Christian hands reach in loving ministry.

(b) Note Paul's description of Epaphroditus, "my brother," "my fellow-worker," "my fellow-soldier" — the sympathy of a brother, the service of a worker, the sacrifice of a soldier. Epaphroditus did not come to Rome as a tourist. Once there he threw himself into a ministry which jeopardised his health and his safety.

"You are too conscientious, don't put so much into things," said one to a fellow Christian. Would we speak thus with a surgeon expending himself in a life and death struggle with our loved ones? Gain for the kingdom of God and for love of the brethren is measured by the life poured out, not hoarded up.



# WORSHIP

How little we know of the actual method of worship in the first Christian Church! We know that the disciples continued steadfastly in the breaking of bread. Although they met from house to house they obviously gathered in much larger groups on occasions, for over five hundred brethren saw the risen Christ at the one time. -

We have more in the Corinthian letters than in any other books of the New Testament concerning worship in the early Church. For instance, we have Paul's word regarding conduct emphasised, and also the breaking of bread. Acts 20: 7 tells us that *when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them.* We deduce from this and the fact of the Lord's request, that the keeping of "*the feast*" was the central matter in worship.

The disciples continued to go up to the temple in Jerusalem to pray, but when the persecutions came upon them they met wherever they could, even in catacombs beneath the hills of Rome.

Although we have five Greek words in the New Testament, all to do with the worship of God, they do not help us very much in knowing what the Christians actually did. But any reader of the Word, will know that their worship was sincere, full of the expectancy of Christ's return, glad of heart, generous and careful of the wants of their brethren.

The early Restorationists, when there was the lack of divine command, looked for an example set by the inspired apostles. Thus, for instance, the first day of the week is the day of worship. Christ sanctified this day by his resurrection and by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit as the disciples met together in prayer. But the final word is given in Acts 20: 7, "*Upon the first day of the week when the disciples came together to break bread . . .*" This is supported by 1 Cor. 16: 2, "*Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by in store as God hath prospered him.*"

Praise and prayer were undoubtedly essential parts of Christian worship. Christ set an example in singing (probably the second part of the Hallal, Ps. 115-118) following the giving of his memorial supper. It is believed by many that fragments of early Christian hymns may be found in the New Testament. Paul enjoined the Ephesians to speak to themselves in "*Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your hearts unto the Lord.*" 1 Cor. 14: 15 refers to prayer and praise with the spirit and mind in public worship. Acts 2: 42 says the Church devoted itself to prayer. We can imagine how earnestly the disciples later, sought the outpouring of comfort, strength and grace when the fury of the persecutions fell upon them.

There was a place for preaching in the gatherings. Perhaps a letter of Paul was read, or an exhortation given by a brother in Christ to remain faithful and to "*forsake not the assembling of yourselves together.*" Words of Jesus would no doubt be repeated over and over with the seal set upon them by the telling of his death, resurrection and ascension.

We, today, barely recognise the primitive conditions under which Christians worshipped even a hundred years ago. Roman Catholic churches recognise seats in their buildings as a Protestant innovation. Singing in country Anglican churches was led by wood-wind instruments. Charles Kingsley's church at Eversley had two trombones and a clarinet. A reading of Thomas Hardy's novels tells something of such church orchestras (not that it made any great difference, for Christianity was at a very low ebb a hundred years ago). Moody and Sankey faced some of their strongest opposition from the Presbyterian churches in Britain because the Presbyterians neither believed in the little organ which Sankey played, nor the hymns which he sang. The Presbyterians sang the Psalms of David. They had no instruments of any kind beyond a tuning fork. We have heard of Churches of Christ being criticised for not using an organ (a few did not many years ago). Incidentally we recall attending a Church of Christ in which an organ had just been installed. The organ sounded like a tin whistle amongst that congregation of Welsh people who really could sing.

We have made mention of the music, because, when we look back at the Campbells, we must remember that they were probably well ahead of many communions in their form of service, as primitive as it may seem to us. Those who have read of such in Campbell's *The Christian System*, would not like to go back, we imagine, to such conditions. (Anyway some of their services in the winter were shortened, commencing at 11 a.m. and being "adjourned" at 2 p.m.) And yet it was under such conditions in homes or public halls that most of our causes have been commenced, and they were happy, virile, witnessing and working causes. They worshipped in the true beauty of holiness, which after all, is conditioned by mer's hearts.

The Restorationists did not encourage ornate buildings. They were poor and were glad enough to build a log meeting-place. They feared that men may worship not in spirit but in gratification of the senses. Their fears were not groundless. We recognise today, however, that in worship we should honor our Lord with the best in all things.



B. J. COMBRIDGE, Secretary of Victorian Home Missions suggests  
the need of . . . .

# Rebuilding Religious Enthusiasm

I am refreshed. The reason? A letter. Quite a variety of letters come to the Home Missions office—not all of them encouraging. But today I opened a letter which began, "As I read the following from 'Seven Steeples,' a book by Margaret Henrichsen, I thought of you and your work." To say the least of it, that was unusual. I don't remember ever receiving a letter like that before. Probably I've never written one like it, either. Here was a man who was reminded of me and my work! My heart was warmed. Even if there were nothing more to it, it did me good to know that some one paused to think thus, and found time to write a letter about it.

Moreover, that letter was written by a preacher, and on a Saturday, mark you! Were his Sunday sermons already prepared? Not if he's like most preachers, especially the one I know best. Even if they were, he deserved to relax as a reward for his industry. But, instead of that he takes time to think of me and my work, and to write to me about it. Therefore I am refreshed.

Curious to know what my good friend said? Well, first he gave me a brief excerpt from the book, and then this explanation: "Though a woman, the author, after the death of her husband, was given the idea of becoming a woman minister ('woman' was underlined) to a group of country churches. The book is a record of her experiences."

I took particular notice of "a woman (underlined) minister to a group of country churches." It is an idea, at least. I don't suppose the Priscillas became extinct with the passing of the apostolic age. The records of our women missionaries suggest achievements of which no male worker need feel ashamed. And I know no reason why a woman cannot minister to men in spiritual things as effectively as a man can to women.

The paragraph my friend sent me, told what wonderful friends the people were, who visited this locality in the summer-time; and how they, too, took the new pastor to their hearts with cordial warmth. Then it said, "The way they continue to attend church in good weather or bad, no matter how inconvenient the hour, is a wonderful tribute to their appreciation of the need for rebuilding religious enthusiasm along this sea-coast." In a characteristic way my brother preacher fastened on to that picturesque phrase—"rebuilding religious enthusiasm"—

and said that, to him, it savored of Home Missions, and he concluded by asking, "Is not that what you and your preachers and their people are seeking to do?"

You are right my friend. And is not that what you and those people who serve with you are doing in that splendid work of yours? That's a fine phrase and a fine idea.

Somehow I feel that that's a basic need today—enthusiasm for the real work of the kingdom of God. This is not an age when people lack enthusiasm. Theatres, pictures, tennis, racing, football, cricket—these attract tens of thousands who endure all kinds of hardships, pay the required prices and roar themselves hoarse. To build a home in spare time, young people will endure inconvenience and sacrifice pleasure for years on end. To build a business, they will expend no end of energy and take abundant risks. There's no want of enthusiasm today. But to channel it in the interests of the kingdom of Christ—that's the thing.

We Christians sometimes fool ourselves into satisfaction by showing how wrong the other fellow is—even our fellow-Christians. We criticise his views, find fault with his efforts, even belittle his sincerity and think we are doing God service. But the enthusiasm which is born of the spirit is positive, creative, pure and peaceable. Its primary function is not to expose error but to expound truth. It relates more to persons than to things. It is concerned with God and our fellows. It is more than preaching and worshipping, in the narrow sense, which satisfies many to-

day, more than fitting into a pattern which some human authority has declared divine. It is something which first brings the man himself and then his fellows face to face with God and his Son Jesus Christ, not once, nor twice, but continuously. So that he is always in the attitude of worship. He is thinking not of the failures of the less informed and the less devout fellow—he has too many of his own to concern him. In desperate humility and penitence he is face to face with God's grace and redemption. It is out of that tremendous fact, more than any other, that his religious enthusiasm grows.

Having seen himself thus, he has heard only to thank God for his mercy and to witness to his fellows concerning God's love. If rebuke there must be, it will be the silent rebuke of a pure and godly life. If there be correction, it will be the correction of kindness and gentleness and love.

The purest religious enthusiasm is manifest when it is no more we who live, but Christ who lives in us. He was enthusiastic about God's love for lost men, and he told about it in many a matchless story. And he gathered to himself men who caught his spirit and tried to live like him. These men kindled the religious enthusiasm of that wonderful first century of Christianity. So, if I may paraphrase what my friend wrote to me I would say that the rebuilding of religious enthusiasm is what we all must seek to do, for the Holy Spirit whose power produced Pentecost was symbolised by tongues like fire, and not by an iceberg.

## Aborigines Missions

Notes by Federal Secretary, J. K. Robinson.

In their need they turn to our Missions. Here are some examples:

The Onslow District Hospital notified our Carnarvon Mission that a young native woman was to give birth to a child, but could not care for it, and there was no one else. The mother had been a leper. Would the Mission take the baby. A few weeks later there came a telegram saying that the baby was born, and would be arriving a week later by plane. It arrived, one week old. Miss Martin and Nurse Butler were occupied almost night and day meeting the little one's needs. It has

settled down to routine now, but little imagination is needed to realise the added task these missionaries carry. Yet Miss Martin says she could not turn them away, because she believes they are sent by the Lord to be cared for.

A young native woman expecting a baby came into Carnarvon to wait her time to go to hospital. She stayed with some other native folk near the town. The police evicted her summarily, telling her she could not live there. A taxi driver discovered her plight and brought her to the Mission. She had



nowhere else to go. In spite of their other heavy commitments, the missionaries took her in to shelter her. She is very shy and uncommunicative, but is being lovingly helped.

A court case came on in Norseman in which a family of children were "charged" with being neglected. Mr. Griffiths appeared in Court as a protector of Aborigines. Result? The children committed to the Mission, one of them being a five-months-old baby.

So they come, and we praise God that the Missions are there to minister in the name of the Lord, in loving deeds as much as in words.

### AMONG THE MISSIONARIES

Sickness has taken its toll in the ranks of our workers. At Norseman, Miss Holden and Mrs. Morre are in hospital (July 22), their cases not yet diagnosed. Other workers have had influenza. At Carnarvon, Mr. Ray Schmitt was stricken with jaundice, Miss Butler with enteritis. Pray for all these, that they may regain full health. We praise God that he raised up Mr. Don Dewing, Miss Clarice Burt and Miss Betty Williams to help out in the emergency at Carnarvon. These young people went at short notice. They have not been appointed as missionaries, but they will give devoted service for a time at least. Mrs. Griffiths at Norseman is progressing towards full strength, but must still exercise care. She is caring for the youngest baby.

We praise God for encouraging enquiries from a number of folk who desire to serve, and in the near future reinforcements should be going forward to the fields. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Clapp have had the work close to their hearts ever since they withdrew from it some time ago, and now the way has opened for them to return. They will be going to Carnarvon in September next.

### FRUITAGE

Rita Oakley and Sally Darby of Carnarvon Mission are now established in good positions in the town; Rita in the home of the magistrate and Sally in the school headmaster's home. They are bringing credit on the Mission, and when seen in the street they evoke expressions of admiration for their appearance and behavior. Duxie Bate-man, also from Carnarvon, was head of her class last term at Perth Girls' High School. Sonny Graham of Norseman has been elected head prefect of Norseman High School. All these young people are earnest Christians. Norseman reports 11 decisions for Christ over the past year, and at Carnarvon recently, the native woman, who was received there from Norseman, completed the work of grace begun at Norseman by making her stand for Christ. Praise God and pray on.

August 30, 1955



### NERVE CENTRE — AMERICAN BROTHERHOOD A. Anderson

Whilst St. Louis is an important centre since it is the publication heart of the American Disciples, Indianapolis is the nerve centre because here is located the United Christian Missionary Society (known throughout the brotherhood as U.C.M.S.) which co-ordinates and unifies the total work of the united churches. It is well known, of course, that there are groups which do not unite. This has been one of the major problems of our American work. The non-co-operating group numbers over 1,000,000. The Australian brotherhood should be proud of the fact of our unity in brotherhood work, and guard jealously and work earnestly that no such division ever comes.

This city has several churches, many of them I was privileged to see. Dr. and Mrs. A. C. Brooks were gracious hosts during the five-day stay in this place. The people in the American homes, where I stayed or was invited to meals, were delightfully informal and the folk extremely kind. One realises how akin they are to ourselves, both in Christian outlook and mode of life.

Some of the centres and churches were not seen at their best for two major reasons. Quite a number of people were away on holidays, so less people are about, and quite a number of places which commonly hold night meetings close such meetings during the summer months, or combine with one or two other groups. Sometimes the link-up might be with groups of Baptists or Presbyterians — on one occasion I preached to a Baptist-Disciple congregation which was as near to one of our own night meetings as one would desire. The second reason for some disorganisation lay in the fact that a great number of our churches are making alterations or additions. Some have building programmes committing them to 200,000 dollars—some even higher.

One must pay a tribute to the devotion and the inclination to attend services on the part of the best people of the American brotherhood. Sunday School is usually held at 9.30 a.m., which is attended by a large number of adult members. They remain during this session (one hour) and continue through the church service, approximately one hour fifteen minutes. For several Sundays the heat was intense, with a humidity of over 90 per cent, yet the meetings were well attended. Despite the lack of a night meeting or a very altered type of night meeting, many additions and decisions are re-

corded. Without fail in the churches attended, an invitation was extended at the morning service for decision for church membership or reconsecration, and at times there was a response. Often active visitation is carried out by select members or by the associate pastor. Statistics prove that the average attendance at churches in America has been going up each year.

On the Sunday at Indianapolis, I spoke in the morning at Third Christian Church (Dr. A. C. Brooks, pastor). The meeting was well attended, probably 400 people, and held in the basement because of repairs going on in the sanctuary—the heat was terrific and even fans made little impression.

During this stay a visit was made to the offices of Indianapolis group of churches, who have banded together to look after the interests of the work in this city. This work does not overlap the State work, but co-ordinates Home Mission work. New causes have been commenced because of this co-operative effort.

Butler University was next on the list—a college of fine traditions and doing an effective work. During this visit I was guest of Dean Shelton, who very graciously gave me some of the history of the institution and showed me around. At Chapel Assembly, Dean Shelton led the worship and as visitor I was asked to address the assembly.

Dr. and Mrs. A. C. Watters, one time missionaries to India with the British brethren, graciously invited me to dinner. They are a charming couple, and came over to America from Scotland to take lectures in the School of Missions, Butler University. They hope after retirement in a year or so to visit South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. For some years Dr. Watters was associated with the late G. P. Pittman and his wife. They were vividly aware of our Australian work and knew the names of our leaders, past and present. During the period the Australian brotherhood worked in China, they knew what was going on. The names of many Australians, particularly Dr. and Mrs. A. W. Kemp and Dr. A. C. Garnett, was known to them, both in England and America.

The one-day visit to the U.C.M.S. building was an education and a delight. Mrs. May Yoho Ward acted as guide, and each department explained their function. A conference with their Foreign division was both helpful and inspiring.

It was a pleasure on this day with the U.C.M.S. to speak at the chapel service, which was conducted by Miss Jessie Trout, ex-missionary to Japan.



This instalment of the Editor's travel story, "All Roads - Toronto!" takes us to . . . .

# The Heart of the U.S. Brotherhood

The American Mid-West is familiarly known as "the Bible Belt," and it is certainly the strongest area of our people in America. In Indiana, Disciples are the second strongest Protestant communion, in numerical terms, while Kansas City, Missouri, runs Melbourne close for the honor of having the largest number of our churches in any one city and far eclipses it in terms of membership.

## The Indianapolis "Hive"

It was in Indianapolis that I first sensed the real strength of our Mid-West membership, for here is centred the work of the United Christian Missionary Society, with its many agencies; also the International Convention, the Pension Fund, and the Butler School of Religion. Here, too, are powerful churches with membership of over a thousand—churches like the Olive Branch Christian Church and the Northwood Christian Church, at which I spoke on my two Sundays in Indianapolis. Both include 1,400 or more on their rolls. Religious Education leader at the Olive Branch Church is Miss Catherine Carter, who was one of the American delegates to the 1952 Melbourne Convention, and still talks of those days as among the most memorable in her life. (Other 1952 delegates to whom I have spoken have said the same thing; the Melbourne Convention was the finest advertisement our Australians churches ever had.)

It was a great personal delight to stay with Dr. and Mrs. Theo. Fisher and their family, and to sense the warm affection and high regard in which they are held by their congregation. Fifteen years ago Theo. Fisher thought he had done well if one hundred attended a service; today the church is in a magnificent modern building, with two services necessary each Sunday morning (with talk of a third). An associate minister, a religious education leader, and an efficient office staff share in the leadership of the church's work, which is undergirded by an Official Board of over 120 men and women, carefully organised in committees. I was present at a meeting when some of these committee chairmen gave reports; there was no doubting their quality.

Visiting the Missions Building in Indianapolis was certainly an experience made all the more enjoyable by meeting Mark Rutherford again, and later lunching with him and Mrs. Rutherford in their home. There was much talk of their visit to Australia last winter. Mark led the 8 a.m. short devotional service at which I spoke to

the large staff at work in the building; a chapel room is set aside for these daily devotions. I chatted with him and other leaders on our common problems, and later adjourned with the editor of *World Call*, G. W. Buckner, to enjoy morning tea (Canadian-style) with Miss Jessie Trout and her helpers in the Women's Fellowship work. I had a most interesting session with Dr. Buckner and other members of his editorial staff, discussing the production of their monthly international magazine. Its present circulation among our members is about 63,000, and it has established a fine reputation since being established in 1919 by the merger of five other magazines. During the afternoon the *World Call* honored me with a reception at which I was introduced to many representatives of our brotherhood work.

On other days I was entertained at lunch by officials of the Pension Fund and the office staff of the International Convention. I learned that, after 24 years of operation, the Pension Fund was today a financial institution with millions of dollars in assets. "The Pension Plan is designed for ministers and churches. There is no reservation for the minister as to health, residence or nature of work. Since some churches are large and others small, and ministers move from one congregation to another, the dues are based on salary, not on age. Of approximately 5,000 persons upon which our U.S. brotherhood depends for ministerial leadership, 4,600 are enrolled in the Pension Plan." Normally, the minister pays 3% of his total monthly salary, and the church an amount equal to 9% of that salary. The Plan appears to be working very satisfactorily.

At the Butler School of Religion I addressed a noon chapel service, and later lunched with Dean Shelton and several members of his faculty. Among these were Dr. and Mrs. A. Watters, former missionaries of our British churches. Another well known British representative on the faculty is Dr. William Robinson.

## Preachers and Publications

From Indianapolis I went into Missouri, to the lovely grounds of the William Woods College in Fulton. Within a few hundred yards was another College, where Sir Winston Churchill made the famous speech in which he first coined the phrase, "the Iron Curtain." There was no "curtain" of any kind to mar the fellowship of the men who gathered at William Woods from Monday to Thursday of that week for our Missouri ministers'

annual summer retreat. The elegance and comfort of these retreat surroundings would turn most Australian ministers green with envy. I was one of four lecturers, and was delighted to find another Australian among them—Dr. William Moore, Professor of New Testament from Drake Divinity School, Des Moines. Prof. Robert Martin, of Phillips University, gave Old Testament lectures, while Dr. Harold Bosley, minister of the First Methodist Church, Evanston, stirred us all with lectures grappling with some of today's problems. It was refreshing to listen to these men, and to share the informal fellowship of those days.

From Fulton I came to St. Louis in a heat-wave—and, as any American will tell you, that's no fun! I enjoyed my evening visit with Dr. Lin Cartwright, editor of *The Christian-Evangelist*, all the more because he lives in an air-conditioned apartment. I stayed in the home of W. Elbert Starn, secretary of the Disciples' Union in St. Louis, and soon learned why so many homes in this area have large electric window-fans designed to cause some circulation of air on the hot, still nights of the Mid-West summer. Yet, despite the heat, I found much activity in the Christian Board of Publication, where the annual inventory was in progress. There is an excellent sales room for books and other publications. In the buildings of the Christian Board of Publication are prepared and printed helpful materials for many phases of church activity.

On my Sunday in St. Louis I visited two of our churches. At Union Avenue Church I spoke to a large group of combined adult classes in the Sunday School. G. Curtis Jones, who attended the Melbourne Convention, has just begun his ministry with this church. I had no sooner finished speaking to this adult group than a car was waiting to whisk me to another church, where I preached during the morning service.

## On Radio and TV

The heat followed me to Kansas City, where I helped celebrate Independence Day with deep-fried southern chicken and ice-cold watermelon, eaten on the patio of the home of the Harold Stines. Mr. Stine is one of our ministers who was sent to the Melbourne Convention by his congregation, and was delighted to have a chance to repay some of the hospitality he enjoyed in a Footscray home.

While in Kansas City I was interviewed both on radio and T.V. Folk here are eager to learn about Aus-



tralia; everybody knows about the kangaroo, but not much else! My first T.V. experience was interesting—even if it was somewhat nerve-shattering to be able to see in the monitor set near by just what I looked like while the session was on; in some ways as humbling an experience as hearing yourself preach via a tape-recorder!

On the following Sunday morning I sat for another radio interview, this time for R. L. Williams in Mason City. Mr. Williams is doing a very fine work in Mason City, and it was a real pleasure to preach for him. We all talked much of Australia—especially as I had come on to Mason City after stopping off at Des Moines for a day in the

Will More Home, where I had dinner with Ron Graham, formerly of Brisbane, and also spoke at Drake Divinity School to a representative group whose questions showed keen interest in our Australian work.

Next:

ALONG THE LAKES FRONTIER.

By Air Mail, Principal A. W. Stephenson, tells of his travels . . . .

## ACROSS THE STATES

The welcome Australians gave delegates to the Melbourne World Convention made a lasting impression. "You were so wonderful when we were in Australia we cannot do too much for you." Such is the type of remark we hear from friends at Seattle, Portland and Denver. Australians have won a fine name among the American Disciples.

How fortunate we have been in having so many young people in the delegation of twenty-three! These young men and women have discussed reasons why the churches in this country have been able to build such large chapels and have such an influential place in the community. They are seeking ideas and methods that could be applied to Australian conditions. They see the need for stewardship to have a more vital place in the life of the Australian churches. In the church at Denver there is a tithers' club with a membership of 120. No wonder they could spend 120,000 dollars on their building, making it a more beautiful place in which to worship.

At Portland, Ernest Peterson, one of the nation's outstanding religious news reporters, gave the delegation a fine write-up in the Oregon Journal. He gave special mention to young people in the group, telling what they intend to do after the Convention.

One of the highlights of the trip was the visit to the "wild west" city of Cheyenne. We know how to pronounce this name now, do you? Church members took us from the station to the beautiful new church building. There, a large company had gathered, including the State Governor and the Mayor of the city.

Governor Wilward Simpson made a fine welcome speech and urged young people to give Christ central place in life. He had learned from a former American consul a few Australian stories, with which he entertained all. With men of such an outlook in high public places, we can find some reason why the church has such a vital place in the American community life. Yes, we were taken to a ranch and saw real cowboys. Ask one of the young ladies for a picture of herself on a cowboy's horse. You will like her cowboy hat, too.

At Denver, the delegation was welcomed by K. O'Neil and his workers.

It was my privilege to address a combined rally of protestant churches in the Civic Centre of the city.

We are now at Chicago. The young people were delighted to make the acquaintance of a policeman who claimed, and his speech did not give the lie, that his family came from Ireland. We are impressed with the love shown to us. At all the centres visited, our friends have sung with us: "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love." We have all felt this tie of love, and we thank God we are members of such a wonderful communion and brotherhood.

### TORONTO PROGRAMME

The great Convention crowds have now gathered from many parts of the world. The various groups of Australians, some coming via Great Britain, others by ship across the Pacific and still others by air, have now united into a fine delegation, numbering about 60.

We have been overwhelmed with the kindness of our hosts and with the enthusiasm of the welcome.

## Geraldton (W.A.) Mission Concludes

The mission closed on Wednesday, August 3. It was a tremendous success in every respect. There has been no real evangelical gospel preached in Geraldton for a long time past, and it was a thrill to see the response from the people of that town.

Although we had six or eight active members at the opening of the mission, there was an attendance of 132 on the closing night. This followed excellent attendances right throughout the 6½ weeks.

There were nineteen decisions, almost all adults, and included four married couples. Many other people are definitely interested, and intend attending the regular services in the meeting room which is attached to the manse. We prayerfully believe that there will be several other decisions in the coming weeks.

The mission party comprised J. K. Bond of Wembley, P. Perry of Mukinbudin, and H. E. Greenwood of Geraldton. House to house visitation was

The World Christian Women's Fellowship had the first meeting of the Convention. Some 1,400 women were at a lunch and then listened to greetings from 18 representatives of different countries. Mrs. A. W. Cleland spoke on behalf of Australian women. All those present spoke enthusiastically of this initial gathering of a world-wide women's fellowship.

We are now awaiting the first Convention meeting. This is being held in Maple Leaf Gardens building which will hold 14,000. Already over 6,500 have registered for the Convention and Dr. Jesse Bader reports that this is a record for all World Conventions. We have met many who have served with churches in Australia. In this group we may mention a few, Ira A. Paternoster, jr., Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Lowe, Theo. Fisher, Mrs. A. N. Hinrichsen. Before the Convention is over, we expect to contact others.

It is a delight to renew fellowship with those whom we met during the Melbourne Convention. Scores come and say, "Glad to see you. We had a great time down under."

conducted by a number of visitors from the metropolitan area. Some folk from Wembley spent a whole week in this way.

The thank-offering on the final night stands at present at £514 in cash and promises. This includes gifts from interested folk throughout the State, and means that all expenses, other than salaries, should be covered. Wembley and Mukinbudin churches have continued to be responsible for the salaries of the missionaries.

We ask for prayer from our Australian brotherhood:

Firstly, for those who have been won during the mission period.

Secondly, for Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood as they have the responsibility of teaching and shepherding the new church.

Thirdly, for the many who are definitely interested.

Finally, for the Bible School and work amongst the young.—A. D. Pyne.



# here and there

C. G. Taylor (editor) writes that the 7,000 registered delegates to Toronto were reported to be present on the opening night. Over B class radio news it was reported that K. A. Jones presided over the united communion service on Sunday 21st.

The women of our churches perform a grand task in supporting Social Service, missionary enterprises, etc. A typical example of their work and generosity is manifested in a report received from the Women's Mission Band at Boort, Vic. During the past twelve months they have forwarded 170 garments to New Hebrides, 130 to India, also clothing to Social Service, Melb., and Aborigines Missions, W.A. Cash has been forwarded to various institutions.

We are sorry to learn that the church at North Perth, W.A., was partially unroofed during a gale on August 22. Damage is estimated at about £400. North Perth recently celebrated its Jubilee. C. H. Hunt is the preacher.

Mr. and Mrs. Morfew (Hobart) have been appointed Superintendent and Matron of Bethany Boys' Hostel in place of Mr. and Mrs. Webb who have relinquished the position owing to ill health of Mr. Webb. The transfer of Bethany from Dover to Lindisfarne is expected within the next few months.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Clark and family have been welcomed to the church at Rockdale, N.S.W., following completion of Mr. Clark's ministry at Boonah, Qld. There was a large gathering of members and friends at the induction service on August 18. The deputy Mayor of Rockdale extended a welcome. Charge to the church was given by R. V. Amos (Chatswood), and R. Greenhalgh (Youth Director) gave the charge to the preacher. Mesdames McDonald and Morrison provided several items. A time of fellowship followed the meeting when members became acquainted with preacher, his wife and family.

The annual reunion of the Federal College of the Bible Old Boys' Association has been fixed for Tuesday, September 20, when members will meet at the College at 7.45 p.m. for sessions of business, fellowship and devotion. The Association sec., K. A. Jones, is making a speedy return from the World Convention in Toronto to be present at the occasion.

The annual Mission Band Rally of the Victorian Women's Conference Committee will be held on Sept. 14, and ladies attention is requested to full details appearing in this issue.

The monthly meeting of the Victorian Ministers' Association will be held in Swanston-st. Lecture Hall, on Monday, Sept. 5. Luncheon, 1 p.m., meeting, 2.15 p.m., speaker, Dr. R. C. Johnson, M.A., Master of Queen's College, "Psycho-Therapy and Pastoral Work." All preachers invited.

## New Youth Hall,

MURRAY BRIDGE, S.A.



Interior of hall with cake replica on stage.

On Saturday, August 13, the new youth hall at Murray Bridge, S.A., was opened by Theo. Edwards. The meeting following was addressed by G. Whiting, Youth Director. 600 attended the opening, and 500 were served with a three course tea. A concert in the evening was given by the local young people. Many unable to gain admittance to the hall asked for a repeat of the concert to be given. 200 tubular steel chairs comprise part of the seating and most of these were given. A large cake, a replica of the hall was made, part going to the Christian Guest Home, and small replicas given to various workers. The value of the hall is about £7,000, but the cost of building by voluntary labor reduced that amount by half. The debt is about £1,000. P. R. Whitmore is the preacher.

The church at Red Cliffs, Vic., has received from Mrs. Dodemalde, a new platform chair and 24 hymn books as a memorial to her late husband, who was an esteemed member of the church.

August 12 at Collins-st., Hobart, Bible School was "Launching Day" for B.S. competition which is taking the form of an "Interplanetary Space Race." Teams are represented by rocket ships! Mr. Townley (Minister for Air) sent off the "rockets" on their first stage from earth to the moon. Realistic sound effects (tape recorded), colored lighting effects and special decorations made the "launching" an outstanding success. The motto is "Seeking the Highest," and the aim, "A bigger and better school."

The church at Seven Hills, N.S.W., has purchased a block of land near the railway station on which to erect a chapel as soon as possible. D. Creeper is the preacher in this centre.

Holiday play centres will be held by the National Fitness Council of Victoria in metropolitan and country centres from Mon., Jan. 9, to Fri., Jan. 27. Trained staff is now being enrolled. Details of salaries, etc., are available for Victoria at T. & G. Building, 147 Collins-st., Melbourne. Play centres are held in other States and those desiring employment should contact the National Fitness Headquarters of each State.

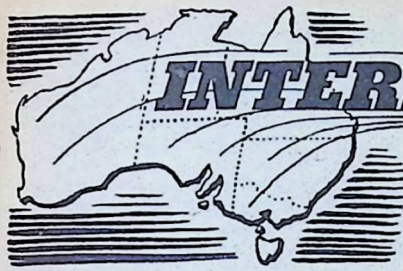


## Central Northern District Conference, Vic.

At the Conference held at Castlemaine on Aug. 6, a resolution was passed urging the Government to abolish the sale of alcoholic beverages altogether on Sundays, and that the bonafide travellers' radius be extended to 100 miles.

The president, W. Johnston, welcomed Mrs. A. R. Lloyd (President, Vic. Women's Conf.). Church reports showed steady progress. Conference donated £10 to Overseas Missions. Miss J. Goudie presided over the Women's session, when Mrs. Lloyd gave an outline of Vic. Women's Conf. activities. In view of possible referendum re liquor hours, £5 was donated to Women's Temperance Committee. L. Burgin (Lygon-st.), spoke to a large men's meeting on 'The Church's Work in a Chaotic World. Musical items for the day, were a quartet from Kyneton, solos Miss Colleen Campbell (Melb.), and Mrs. Parry (Echuca). Plans were discussed for visitation by resident preachers in the area, to churches without preachers. At the inspirational service at night, Mr. Burgin spoke on 'The World's Need of our Creed. Meals provided by Castlemaine church were enjoyed by all.—G. Goudie.





# INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

## Discipleship

- F. Phypers, Sis. Bingham, Albury, N.S.W.  
Bob Glasson, Marrickville, N.S.W.  
Mrs. K. Moebus, Miss M. Filler, Roger Webb, Balaklava, S.A.  
Messrs. White, Seward and Fenby, Prahran, Vic.  
Trevor and Ronald Brimblecombe, Nailsworth, S.A.  
Mrs. Curnow, Myrtle Unsworth, Maidstone, Vic.  
Margaret Grimshaw, Footscray, Vic.  
Margaret Peterson, Ron Whitmore, East Preston, Vic.  
Pam Blackman, Ian Jenkins, West Preston, Vic.

## Membership

- Mr. and Mrs. K. Jenner, Paul and David, from South Perth, W.A., to Brighton, Vic.  
Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Vautier, from Ormond to East Malvern, Vic.  
Mr. and Mrs. Cook, from South Yarra, Vic., to Albury, N.S.W.  
Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Clark, Glenys and Harvey, from Boonah, Qld., to Rockdale, N.S.W.  
Mr. and Mrs. W. Thorne, from Boronia to Glen Waverley, Vic.

## Marriage

- Roma Hilford to Bill Mudford, Gilgandra-Dubbo, N.S.W.  
Adele Burrell to John Wright, Gilgandra-Dubbo, N.S.W.

## Fallen Asleep

- L. Williams, Brighton, Vic.  
Mrs. G. May, Balaklava, S.A.  
Mrs. H. Kingston, Kingston, Tas.  
Sis. H. Jacques, Hobart, Tas.  
Mrs. M. L. Huggan, Northcote, Vic.  
Mrs. L. Bangsund, senr., Northcote, Vic.

## Tasmania

Collins-st., Hobart (H. W. Street). — Preacher has commenced series of studies on the Psalms. Youth Fellowship visited Kelleve youth group on Aug. 16. A number of members are

ill. H. Kingston and Sis. O. England are in hospital and M. Stacey has a broken arm. New linoleum, donated by ladies has been laid in kitchen and a new vacuum cleaner has been provided by Y.W.F. Sis. H. Kingston and K. Jacques have recently passed away.

## Western Australia

Cottesloe (G. Smith). — Visiting speakers have been W. Paget and A. Fisher. There were eight baptised at evening service on July 17, two elderly ladies on July 19 and two others on Aug. 14. Preacher visited Geraldton for final two nights of mission. Sacred concert sponsored by C.W.F. raised £20 for aged Guest Home at Joondana Heights.

Lake-st., Perth (A. J. Fisher). — On July 31, F. J. Stephenson addressed fellowship tea, and preached at youth service when several Y.P. participated. Mrs. Collins addressed Dorcas on Aug. 9, telling of visitation at Woorloo Sanatorium. R. Vincent spoke on 14th while preacher was at Applecross. F.M. offering reached £98. United Nations Children's Appeal offering was £49/11/- from church and £3/6/ 9 from B.S. A young woman made her confession at gospel service on 14th.

North Perth (C. H. Hunt). — Representatives of youth groups attended special meeting in Maylands chapel to further interests of Y.P. of Bassendean, Maylands, Inglewood and North Perth churches. B.S. teachers held monthly meeting. The school is now practising for anniversary. Month of Self Denial leading up to Jubilee resulted in £137 being raised for manse fund. Offering was taken on recent Sunday night for Needy Children of Europe. Choir continues to render fine service to church. Gospel services are showing an increase in attendance. Mr. Cross (Geraldton) was visitor at communion service. Y.P.C.E. invited North Leederville Methodist C.E. to recent meeting. Northern Suburban Districts Union held annual social in hall. Youth Council met after church on Aug. 7. Youth service was held recently. On Orange and Flower Day, C.E. visited Guest Home and aged and sick folk, also Children's Hospital. Y.P.C.E. has been encouraged with addition of new members. Mr. Chessell attended B.S. Supt. Camp at Waterman's Bay.

## New South Wales

Albury (F. L. Leivesley). — With the accent on youth during the past few weeks the church is happy with the progress made among the clubs and C.E. B.S. is maintaining fair average despite period of wet weather that has existed. B.S. was suspended on 21st,

when Happy Afternoon was conducted. Parents and friends attended to hear items which children presented. This type of afternoon is to be a feature of each quarter. Boys' Brigade is slowly building numbers. The boys are keen to reach required number so that the 1st Albury Company may be registered. Some members are looking forward to special camp to be held at Cheshunt in conjunction with Wangaratta. Good Companions, under care of Marg. Raufers is laying foundations for solid youth activities. Attendance at meetings has been reasonably well maintained during wet weather. J. Anderson exchanged with preacher, who spoke at Wangaratta C.E. Birthday. Fellowship has been enjoyed with D. Willis and G. Wladyiuk (Woolwich students). Ladies' Guild celebrated birthday on 16th, when Sis. Wylie was guest speaker.

Gilgandra-Dubbo (V. S. Dallinger). — Mr. and Mrs. R. Hilford (Ipswich, Qld.), have been visitors, Mr. Hilford taking service on July 30. Kitchen teas have been held to honor Roma Hilford and W. Mudford, Adele Burrell and J. Wright. Sympathy of church goes to Mr. and Mrs. A. Mudford in loss of a father. B.S. at Gilgandra, Eumungerie and among colored people of district, are preparing for annual picnic. Several scholars sat for Scripture examination. I.C.E. and J.C.E. meet on Sunday evenings at 5.30. Attendances are good. Dubbo Ladies' Fellowship held second birthday on Aug. 2. Mrs. Irvine of Boys' Home was guest speaker. Interest in B.S. and gospel services is being well maintained in Dubbo.

Marrickville (P. E. Thomas, B.A.). — Church continues in intense planning and praying for tent mission with W. Howard under theme of Life at its Best. Special preparation classes are held for instruction to those on visitation evangelism, door to door campaigning and telephone calls. Bi-monthly evening meetings of Women's Fellowship was held on Aug. 9, when Miss Bell (Women's Conf. Treas.) presented a challenge for each to join in Women's World Fellowship which is to be inaugurated at Toronto Convention. Bethany Bible Class was greatly helped at morning meeting on 14th by interesting talk given by L. Gold, returned missionary from Thailand. Class arranged fellowship tea in afternoon with R. Beadle (Epping) as guest speaker. Almost sixty were challenged with a stirring message. Gospel service was time of rejoicing when a young man from Bible Class was immersed.

Seven Hills (D. Creeper). — Social evening was enjoyed by 60 who attended on Aug. 13. I. A. Paternoster gave



illustrated and informative lecture on work in New Hebrides. Gospel Harmony Instrumentalists, led by S. Gibb, presented delightful musical entertainment. B.S. attendance is increasing. New scholars have been enrolled through visitation by Mr. Creeper.

**Taree (M. H. A. Pieper).**—The church at Taree had a highlight experience on Aug. 20 and 21, when 35 folk from Newcastle churches visited Manning River. The local C.E. group carefully planned the programme, which was a credit to their organisation. Local church members gladly shared in offering hospitality. Five of the Newcastle churches were represented, Cardiff, Merewether, Hamilton, Georgetown, and Mayfield, and the group was made up mostly of Y.P. from these churches. On Saturday an outing was planned for the seaside, and the visitors were entertained in the Methodist school hall at night on account of extra space available. Services on Sunday were possibly the best for ten years, young men lead the morning service with dignity, and the messages, which were appropriate, were given by M. H. A. Pieper. W. Fraser (Newcastle) was speaker at Wingham following communion service at Taree.

**Lismore (A. C. Caldicott).**—Three men and a girl made their decisions in recent weeks. Whilst on holidays in district, R. Goode (Murwillumbah), Chaplain B. Cavill (Qld.), and J. Christensen (Tarome, Qld.) addressed services. Work is maintaining a high standard.

## South Australia

**Balaklava (L. G. Armstrong).**—On July 26, Ladies' Fellowship held proxy Home Mission meeting. Sisters of church attended quarterly meeting of Northern District Sisters' Conference at Long Plains. A young married lady confessed Christ at gospel meeting on 17th, and was baptised following Sunday. On evening of 20th, Miss D. Cornelius (C.I.M.) gave interesting talk and showed pictures on her work in China and Japan. On 31st, representatives of B.&F.B.S. conducted all services. Miss Burke spoke to J.C.E. and showed film to B.S., Mr. Hawkes addressed church, and evening service was conducted by Mr. Buckman, who later showed films in the Methodist hall to a united meeting of churches in town. Y.P.S.C.E. continue to have excellent meetings, and cottage meetings have been held in homes of Misses Shepherd and Mrs. McPharlin. Y.P. presented Bible play at District Rally at Long Plains, the same play was also presented at Owen C.E., and Balaklava gospel service. Church is planning mission with I. Nixon as missionary. Mid-week prayer meeting has been well attended with Cliff Jones giving helpful messages. Church was saddened by Home call of Mrs. G. May, and sympathy is extended to her family.

**Croydon (W. N. Bartlett).**—Despite wintry conditions, good attendances have continued. On Aug. 12, H. K. Brand gave Y.P.C.E. a talk on "How I Read the Scriptures." On 14th a youth tea was held. A short sing-song was held before church. J. Bartlett presided at tea and T. Bartlett at the church service. At fellowship gathering afterwards, an extremely good film was shown and members of Fullarton church were present. B.S. anniversary practice has begun, and practices are held each Sunday night at manse.

**Kilburn (H. G. Norris).**—C.Y.F. enjoyed picture programme supplied by Vacuum Oil Co. on Aug. 19, offering being taken for building fund. Services were well attended on 21st, when preacher continued messages on Stewardship. Mrs. D. Evans and daughter, Judyth, were welcomed back to services. B. Richards (C.O.B.) addressed I.C.E. meeting and spoke about the college. P. Semmens is still in hospital, but recovering rapidly.

**Mile End (L. E. Jones).**—Many friends and parents attended annual Hobby and Pet Show. Exhibits from scholars were of a high standard. Splendid meetings at tent mission which opened on Aug. 14. Packed meetings on Sunday nights and tent well filled on week nights. Mission party consists of preacher, and W. Philp as song leader and soloist. Visiting singers are assisting and many delegations from churches are appreciated. Two young men made their decision the first week.

**Nailsworth (N. Gavros).**—Every auxiliary of church contributed an item at concert held in church hall on Aug. 19. The effort was made to raise funds for church platform renovations. Concert was great success and available seating inadequate for crowd which sought admission. Church regrets loss of Mrs. Dunne, until recently B.S. sec., who has been appointed to staff of Australian Inland Mission and will be located at Dunbar, North Qld. At baptismal service on 14th, three were immersed, and two young men made the good confession, and a young woman presented herself for rededication.

## Victoria

**Wangaratta (R. J. Anderson).**—Worship service on Aug. 7, was broadcast over 3NE. Mr. Anderson was speaker, Rex Ellis presided, and Mrs. Alan Meager sang. C.E. anniversary was celebrated on 14th, with F. Leivesley (Albury) speaking at both services and also at C.E. tea in afternoon, when about 30 Endeavorers gathered together. Over 80 members broke bread on Sunday morning. On 15th, Wangaratta and Yarrawonga C.E. Societies were welcomed at our C.E. rally, when F. Roberts, Aboriginal evangelist at Yarrawonga, gave an inspiring message. Two J.C.E. members and two I.C.E. members sang duets. Ladies' Guild has had

good meetings, journeying to Rutherglen to the home of Mrs. G. Bell, and also recently had a sewing demonstration by Singer Sewing Machine Co. Boys' and Girls' Clubs combined on 16th, for end-of-term social.

**Bendigo (R. V. Holmes).**—Preacher has been conducting helpful series of worship addresses on **Spiritual Growth**. Encouraging letters are being received on recent service broadcasts. Senior Club conducted youth service on Aug. 6, participants being K. Smith (song leader), Mrs. J. Pollock (soloiste), Miss V. Jones (reader) and A. Searle (speaker). C.E. groups shared in Orange and Violet Day visitation at local hospital and Benevolent Home. Ladies Auxiliary held successful sale of goods for manse fund. Clothing parcel has been forwarded to Korean appeal. Church has extended sympathy to members in their loss—Mrs. J. Spencer (husband), Mrs. Fraser (sister), V. Mazlin (mother).

**Balwyn (J. E. Brooke).**—On Aug. 21, in absence of preacher on holidays, services were taken by R. Dixon (India). Mr. Dixon also spoke at Y.P. tea. Inauguration of Men's Fellowship is planned. B.S. is practising for anniversary. D. Russell has been appointed secretary and convener of committee formed to handle plans for building of new school hall.

**Brighton (C. G. Taylor, B.A.).**—Church is enjoying fellowship with Principal and Mrs. E. L. Williams during absence of preacher at World Convention. Presentation was made to life elder, T. R. Morris, on occasion of his 80th birthday. C.M.S. and officers' board are planning to put Mark Rutherford scheme of visitation evangelism into fuller operation. A family of four was welcomed into fellowship by transfer. Church regrets loss, by death, of L. Williams.

**Maidstone (E. H. Randall).**—The blessing of God has been evident during past few weeks with four confessions in all and an average of 50 breaking bread. Two have been welcomed into fellowship and two are yet to be baptised. Fellowship has been enjoyed with the Marshman boys (Stawell), Mrs. Miller (Bordertown), Mr. and Mrs. B. Meyer, and a team of presiding brethren from Footscray church. On Aug. 14, Mrs. Randall rendered a solo. First cottage prayer meeting was held at home of Mr. and Mrs. Hampton on 9th, with seven present. All auxiliaries continue in fine heart.

**Northcote (W. Gale).**—Church was pleased to welcome Mr. and Mrs. R. Dixon and family on Aug. 14. Mr. Dixon addressed morning service. Northcote Preachers' Fraternal has been conducting week of special meetings which church has supported. B.S. anniversary practice is being held under leadership of J. McDonald.



**North Williamstown (H. E. R. Steele).** — Successful B.S. anniversary services were held on Aug. 14 and 21. Special speakers were N. Gilmore (E. Malvern), P. Retchford (Pahran) and H. Steele. Kinder demonstration and Cradle Roll afternoon was held on 21st, when these groups received awards and certificates. Scholars, soloists and pianistes performed creditably under leadership of A. Haskell. Teachers Recognition service was conducted on morning of 21st. W. Griffith is able to attend services again. District prayer meeting was recently held in chapel.

**Pahran (P. Retchford).** — Church was pleased to see preacher back in pulpit after his recent illness. All those who filled his position whilst he was absent were appreciated, and their messages were helpful. W.M.B. held birthday on Aug. 15; guest speaker being Mrs. English (Regent Baptist). C.M.S. held meeting on 12th, when Senior Constable Adams from D24 was guest speaker. Newly-formed table tennis club for young men is thriving.

**Reservoir (R. E. Burns).** — 21st church anniversary services were well attended. Musical items were provided by Mrs. Campbell and G. Woods and friends. Afternoon and evening speaker was G. A. Grainger (former preacher). Thanksgiving service held during week was addressed by J. Plummer. F. Manning (Mission to Lepers) was speaker on Aug. 14. An offering was received for the mission work. C.W.F. is active and enjoyed visit to Oakleigh Guest Home on 23rd.

**Footscray (A. E. Hurren).** — Meetings continue to be very well attended, despite much sickness amongst members. On Aug. 3, F. T. Morgan spoke to Women's Fellowship, and L. Wells (Local Option Alliance) spoke at morning service on 7th. At C.M.S. tea, Alan Wicking told of his overseas trip. Films were shown on behalf of cricket club. Ladies' Aid visited Mitchell's brushware factory. At evening service on 21st, Miss Button, matron of Will H. Clay Nursing Home had a message for church. Church business meeting on 24th, showed work to be in good heart. Average attendance at breaking of bread over last six months was 127; over same period, 25 additions. E. Ashlin and K. Buckley have been added to official board. Church has had fellowship with Winnie Hannah who is nursing in the district. Mrs. Porter and Mrs. Dowling are in hospital, and progressing favorably.

**East Preston (T. V. Weir).** — Church is looking forward with keen anticipation to evangelistic mission in September with F. C. Hunting (Ballarat). Visitation teams have received their second group of assignments, and their experience shows that the community is genuinely appreciative of interest shown by church and work being done amongst Y.P., particularly the teenagers. Work of prayer partners for mis-

sion continues and interest in mid-week fellowship meetings, held in members' homes, grows. Church was represented in appeal by daily newspaper for polio victims, £3/15/- being donated. K.S.P. and P.B.P. journeyed to Hurstbridge when they met with Y.P. from West Preston, Thornbury, Ivanhoe and Hurstbridge to discuss the topic Christian Union. A number of B.S. homes have been affected by measles, however, attendances are steady above 200, the highest recent total being 238. Problem of seating all kinder children is being overcome by school staff making steel chairs. A number of church pews have been rebuilt for the primary dept. W.M.B. recently held combined meeting with Regent Baptist church. Officers of Boys' Explorer Club were installed at Sunday evening service. There have been two decisions in recent weeks. Latest average figures are a.m., 51; p.m., 67; general offering, £17/6/-; building fund, £7/6/-.

**North Richmond (R. McKenzie, B.A.).** — Baby Show held on July 23 raised £25 for manse fund. Dr. Kemp was speaker at K.S.P. meeting on 25th, when Kappas from Sth. Melbourne were visitors. Slight increase in attendance at church fellowship meetings is pleasing. Miss I. Graham is still not well enough to attend church, and some members have been taking communion to her home on Sunday afternoons. K.S.P. entertained Boys' Explorer Club at a pie night on Aug. 8. Film, Children of Hiroshima, was screened at local Town Hall on 11th, when a number of members attended. Tennis club held church parade on 14th, after which a sing-song was held. All auxiliaries are in good heart and a Senior Girls' Gymnasium class is now held on Tuesday nights.

**Parkdale (C. Dunse).** — Attendances and interest are being well maintained in all meetings. At weekly mid-week prayer meeting a study of Book of Revelation has been very helpful. Monthly snowball meeting was held in home of Mrs. Cemm, speaker being Mrs. F. Manning. Men's Fellowship arranged travel talk illustrated with colored slides and donated proceeds towards new B.S. hall, which church plans to erect in East Parkdale area, where as yet there is no church or B.S., other than Parkdale C. of C. effort, which has just completed two years of service in the Recreation Hall, with Mrs. Dunse (wife of preacher) acting as supt. of kinder. Y.P. enjoyed trip to snow area with other members of Southern Bayside churches. Two teams of tennis club have qualified to play in semi-finals of the Baptist and C. of C. Tennis Association.

**Red Cliffs (C. L. Lang).** — Month has been marked by record attendances, particularly at morning meetings, total attendances being 84, 95 and 100. Y.W.L. attendances are up to 35. At annual business meeting, the following were elected: elders, C. L. Lang, H. J. Cook;

deacons, K. and L. Chislett, R. Gray, R. Heazlewood, A. L. Martin, M. and I. Milne, H. Sprigg, A. B. West; sec., A. L. Martin; treas., H. J. Cook; organistes, Misses B. Heazlewood and B. Chislett. W.F. held "salamagundi night" on Aug. 9, and raised £6/11/-. Ladies have given two beautiful vases to church.

**Swan Hill (R. A. Banks).** — Family service was conducted on evening of Aug. 21, when over 100 were present. Mr. Banks spoke on "Bible Homes." Scripture readings were given by B. McFarlane and Mrs. Streader and a solo was rendered by Kaye King. B.S. is preparing for anniversary. G. Chislett was speaker at morning service on 21st. Geoff. Chislett has returned to Woolwich Bible College after spending his vacation at home.

**West Preston (A. B. Withers).** — R. V. Longthorp (South Yarra) spoke at morning service on Aug. 21. At evening service there were two decisions. On 22nd, Y.P.S.C.E. had talk by R. Brady (Methodist church). Just for Fun social was successfully held on 20th.

#### IN MEMORIAM

**BREALEY.** — Fond and cherished memories of my dear husband, and dearly loved son-in-law of J. Ramsay. Passed away Aug. 30, 1954.

"A godly man in our hearts will never die."

—Sadly missed by his loving wife.

**CROSSFIELD.** — In loving memory of dear mother, passed away, Aug. 29, 1950.

"Sweet are the memories silently kept of a loving mother we will never forget."

—Inserted by her loving sons and daughters.

**LANGLEY, Robert.** — Fell asleep in Jesus, Aug. 28, 1953.

"Always remembered for your wonderful example."

—Inserted by Maisie and Stan Winch and family, Wodonga.

#### ENGAGEMENT

**MARSTON—McKENZIE.** — Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Marston, Bellevue-st., Burnley, have pleasure in announcing the engagement of their only daughter, Janice Elizabeth, to Ian Maxwell, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. McKenzie, McIlwrick-st., Windsor.

#### RUBY WEDDING

**MOFFAT—PELTY.** — Mr. and Mrs. Robert Moffat announce with gratitude and pleasure the 40th anniversary of their wedding, celebrated at the Church of Christ, Doncaster, on Aug. 25, 1915, by their beloved minister, the late Geo. D. Verco.



## Open Forum

### "FOR UNITY."

"The last time" (1 John 2: 18).

As the world has lasted almost two thousand years since John said this, and it may last yet many years more; we are placed in this dilemma, that not only John, but Paul, and all the apostles, labored under the delusion that the end of all things was approaching in their day. People say this, who are not in general disposed to undervalue their authority; some hold the opinion practically, though they may not express it in words. If I supposed they had been misled themselves, and had misled the disciples I should be greatly perplexed. For it is a subject to which they are constantly referring. It is part of their deepest faith. It mingles with all their practical exhortations. If they were wrong here, I cannot myself see where they can have been right.

If the apostles could have been mistaken respecting a matter of fact about which they had the most ample means of information, and on which, they professed to speak as organs of the Holy Spirit (John 16: 12, 13), what confidence could be reposed in them on other subjects in their nature obscure, abstruse and mysterious? Is it unreasonable to ask that the plainest declaration of the Lord himself and his inspired witnesses should obtain a candid hearing, and a cordial belief, from all who own him as "Lord and Master." Surely that robust faith is not utterly extinct which once could say, "Let God be true and every man a liar."—T. J. Johnston, 6 Malabar-st., Launceston, Tas.

### HOLIDAY IN ADELAIDE

Bed and breakfast. Reasonable terms. Apply Social Service Dept., 241 Flinders-lane, Melb. MU 2104, Cent. 1878, or "Acc.," c/o Church of Christ Bookroom, McHenry-st., Adelaide.

### BOARD AND RESIDENCE

Wanted, full board, cut lunches, for Pharmacy student, male. Write, Mrs. J. Blackie, 16 Errard-st. Sth., Ballarat, or phone, WL 2303.

Refined Christian business lady in Christian home. Apply for address to "Austral."

### PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENTS

Book-keeper/Typiste required. Telephone Central 2661, or apply in writing to Woman's Christian Temperance Union, Centreway, Melbourne.

### WANTED

House or flat, accommodate 6, close to beach, from December 24, 1955 to January 14, 1956, for church family. Mrs. M. Bullock, 42 Jamieson-st., West Coburg.

## Coming Events

Lygon-st., Carlton

### BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY

Sunday, September 18

3 p.m., K. J. Clinton

7 p.m., L. G. Burgin

A hearty welcome to all

Collingwood

### BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY

September 11 and 18

Bright singing, Fellowship tea

September 11

3 p.m., T. A. Fitzgerald

7 p.m., J. Styles

September 18

3 p.m., A. A. Avery

7 p.m., H. K. Christensen

6 p.m., Scholars' tea

September 13

8 p.m., Social and prize-giving

Don't forget . . .

Sunday, October 31

Collingwood church reunion

All past members and friends welcome

Spring Vale Bible School

14th ANNIVERSARY SERVICES

Sunday, September 11

3 p.m., D. Mansell

7 p.m., R. W. Lane

Bright singing by the children

Hymns composed by the conductor,  
G. Thomson

Sunday, September 18

3 p.m., Special afternoon, given by  
kinder scholars

(prize distribution)

7 p.m., Sacred Cantata, by Intermediate  
dept.

"Building a church"

Come, see and hear how a church is  
built

Everybody welcome

ANNUAL

*Mission Band Rally*

Wednesday, September 14, 1955

in

Lygon-st. Chapel

10.30 a.m.

Morning — discussion

Afternoon — 1.30 p.m.

Speaker — Mr. Roy Dixon

Soloists — Dorothea Willing

Organists —

Miss M. E. Pittman, L.Mus.A.

Everybody invited

Come, bring your friends

Bring your lunch, cup of tea provided

Offering

Your gifts of clothing for the Aborigine  
children will be received at this meeting

GLEN WAVERLEY CHURCH

Montclair-ave.

(South side of railway station)  
extend a cordial invitation to you  
to be present at the

## Opening and Dedication OF THE CHAPEL

Saturday, September 24, 1955

3 p.m.

5 p.m., Basket tea — guest speaker

7.45 p.m. Commencement of  
EVANGELISTIC MISSION  
with

K. Clinton, missionary

D. D. Stewart, song leader

"The Word for the World and You"

Each night to Saturday, October 1,  
1955

Will you have a part with this young  
church in the witness of the New Tes-  
tament in a new area.

## Jubilee Conference

Churches of Christ Sisters' Auxiliary,  
South Australia

Friday, September 16, 1955

10 a.m., Business Session

2 p.m., Reminiscences and Challenge  
7.30 p.m.,

JUBILEE PAGEANT

also

Sept. 5, 7.45 p.m.,

Young Women's Groups

Sept. 20, 2 p.m., Pioneer Afternoon  
(Honoring Past Presidents)

Hospitality Convener:

Mrs. E. P. C. Hollard,

98 Kingston-ave.,

Melrose Park.

(Phone: UM 1383.)

All meetings Grote-st.

Inverell Church

## Golden Jubilee Services

September 25 — October 9

Tea meeting, Thursday, October 6

Temple Day, Saturday, October 8

Anniversary day, October 9

Preacher at all services: L. G. Burgin.  
Anyone desiring hospitality for part  
or all the time, please notify on or  
before September 18. Sec., G. Bulmer,  
136 Brae-st., Inverell, N.S.W.

### SITUATION VACANT

Housekeeper, Christian, for widower  
and 4 children, 13-7 years. Country  
home, all mod. cons. Apply Social Ser-  
vice Dept., 241 Flinders Lane, Melb.  
MU 2104.

### COMPANION HELPS

The Victorian Social Service Dept.  
could place a number of pensioners or  
elderly persons as companion helps.  
241 Flinders Lane., Melb. MU 2104.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN



# Book Review

CATHERINE MARSHALL'S

## *"The Prayers of Peter Marshall"*

And so this amazing man continues his ministry through the gracious pen of his wife. Having read *A Man Called Peter* and *Mr. Jones Meet the Master*, I felt I knew Peter Marshall, but this book, under the unassuming title of *The Prayers of Peter Marshall*, gives a real insight into the life of this man of God.

In a delightful little pen-sketch of her husband, Catherine Marshall recalls for us the quality of this man's life. These prayers are not just words within a book—they are alive. They speak to your heart and mine, they touch our needs to an extent that gives the book a can't-put-it-down quality.

The book is in two sections—the one headed "The Pastoral Prayers" containing "Prayers for Personal Needs," "Prayers for Special Days," and "Prayers for the Nation and the World"; and the other section headed "The Senate Prayers," containing a personal sketch of Dr. Marshall's chaplaincy and the prayers given during the Eightieth and Eighty-first Congresses. There is no attempt to conserve space in the book, and as a result the prayers are well set out to foster reading and meditation.

An intimate communion with his "Chief," by Dr. Marshall, fills these prayers with expectancy. He expected things to happen when he prayed—"I know, Father, that I must come to thee just as I am. But I also know that I dare not go away just as I came." Expectancy brings excitement and one is conscious of waiting to hear the next portion from this man of prayer—picturesque simplicity speaks the needs of the heart—"Lord Jesus, we come to thee now as little children. Dress us again in clean pinafores; make us tidy once more with the tidiness of true remorse and confession. There is concreteness but no earthiness in "Forbid it, Lord, that our roots become too firmly attached to this earth, that we should fall in love with things."

The "Prayers for Special Days" reveal the breadth of outlook and the sensitivity to the handiwork of God that we all need brought home to us, "We give thee thanks for the loveliness of spring with its promise of summer." And again, "We thank thee, Lord, that there is no weather in heaven. Let not the dullness of this day get into our hearts and minds . . . As winter blows her icy breath along the city's streets, our love goes out to all who need encouragement, to all who lack food and clothing, to all who are cold and cheer-

less, to all who long for home and friendship."

The prayer headed, "America Confesses" is a model for those who lead in public intercessory prayer—it is relevant, it is simple, it is concrete, it is humble, it is frankly contrite. These qualities combined with due attention to Dr. Marshall's rueful comment on the reaction to his Senate prayers, that they were appreciated "in inverse ratio to their length," would do much to add quality to the prayers of our church services.

Although the longest prayer Dr. Marshall prayed in the Senate took only two minutes, these prayers reveal the way in which God used Peter Marshall to guide the United States Senate through difficult years—prayers that spoke of "the stubborn pride that keeps us from apology and confessing fault to one another" and of "the balloon tyres of our conceit" could not long go unheeded.

This book should have wide appeal. As a source book for prayer ideas and expression it will be invaluable to minister and laymen alike. As a book for family or private devotional use it has a quality all its own. To those who would use the prayers in this latter way I would suggest the following method. First read the prayer through, master its figures, its language and its import. Meditate upon it for a few moments, see what God says to you through it, and then pray the prayer to God, charging it with your own emotions and the needs of your own

heart, seeing what you can say to God through the prayer.

This is an outstanding collection, by an outstanding woman, of the prayers of an outstanding man of God.

—R. N. Gilmore.

Copies available at The Austral  
Price, 15/6 (16/1)

## "Hands off Six O'clock Closing" "Extend Bonafide Limit to 150 Miles"

Support these vital matters relating to the liquor traffic by participating in the

GREAT

## Temperance Rally

(Organised by Social Service Dept., and Women's Temperance Committee)

COLLINS ST BAPTIST CHURCH

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1955,

at 8 p.m.

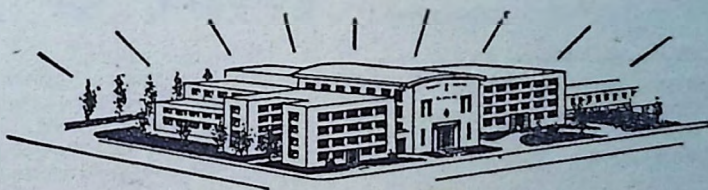
Interstate speaker Film,  
Items by Choral Society

Parliamentarians must be shown there is a strong Christian opinion against further concessions to the liquor traffic.

Make this rally tell in this regard.

All youth groups urged to make this their meeting night and programme item for the week.

Plan to attend! Make a witness for—  
SOBRIETY, SANITY, SAFE ROADS,  
SOCIAL RIGHTEOUSNESS



## "A SILENT PARTNER"

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# National Employers' Mutual General Insurance Ass'n Ltd.

WILL GIVE YOU AND YOUR BROTHERHOOD THE MOST  
EFFECTIVE COVER AT THE MOST ECONOMIC COST.

WRITE 287 COLLINS STREET, C.1.  
MENTIONING THE C.B.T.

RING: MF 6211