

Murray

THE AUSTRALIAN

Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST



next event will be a celebration when B.S. attendance reaches 110. The record so far is 109.

SECOND AUST. CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIAN YOUTH

With its theme, Christ Our Unity, this conference arranged by the Aust. Christian Youth Council will be held at Geelong College, Jan. 19-27, 1956. Several young people from our churches in various parts of Australia have registered for the Conference, which is for youth between 17 and 30 years.

(Contributed for Federal Board of Christian Education by V. C. Stafford.)

CANBERRA CHURCH YOUTH CAMP.

The recent October holiday weekend was used by the Canberra church young people for their first youth camp. Fifty-two attended the camp; 44 young people and eight adult helpers. The camp was held at Sturt Island, on the Murrumbidgee River, about twenty miles from the city, use being made of the Y.M.C.A. site. The programme included studies on **What is a Christian?**, swimming in water that had only recently been snow, games and hikes and treasure hunts, mapping contests, snake hunting, a great deal of eating, sleeping (spasmodic on the first night), and a grand concert on the Saturday night, with the heavens applauding with loud claps of thunder. On Sunday, as well as studies, there were morning and evening services, and a Pleasant Sunday Afternoon that was attended by many visitors from the church, and campers' relatives. The campers were transported to and from the camp by church members and friends, who made generous use of their cars.

Canberra young people enjoy an

after-church sing-song once a month, as well as a monthly youth tea. They have also been engaged in several social events, including a social to celebrate the winning by the House of Peter of the Bible School Competition, and a social with the young people of the Baptist church. The



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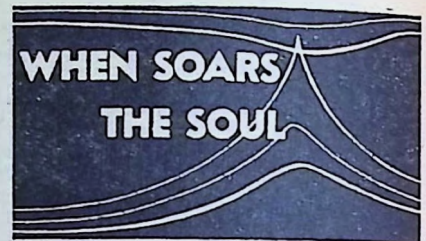
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When soars the soul earth's
clamoring voices cease,
Stilled in the wonder of God's
power and peace.



And it came to pass as Jacob's sons emptied their sacks, that, behold, every man's bundle of money was in his sack; and when both they and their father saw the bundles of money, they were afraid. And Jacob their father said unto them, Me have ye bereaved of my children: Joseph is not, and Simeon is not, and ye will take Benjamin away: all these things are against me."—Gen. 42: 35, 36.

"All these things are against me," cried Jacob in his distress. But were they? He was utterly wrong. Instead of being non-existent, Joseph was, next to the King, the most powerful man in all Egypt. Simeon was not languishing in a foul prison, but under the protection of the Prime Minister of Egypt himself. Benjamin was summoned, not through suspicion, but out of brotherly love, and with the hope that his father might soon be induced to follow him. Things may seem to be against us, but actually, in the working out of providence, they are not, for they are taken up in the pattern of his purpose, who is "for us." Someone has said, "When the heart is burdened, take a course in the Psalms," which is, indeed, most excellent counsel. But let us remind you of a word from the apostle who knew poignantly enough the experience we are discussing: "What shall we say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Rom. 8: 31.) . . . When it seems that everything is against us, that is the very time to draw upon the inexhaustible resources of faith to assure ourselves of the deeper truth that God will never leave nor forsake us.—Dr. Trevor Davies, in "The Christian World."

O thou who hast blazed the trail for us, who art thyself the Way, help us to follow thee unafraid, ever trusting in the goodness of God. Help us to put faith, and hope, and love into all we think and do this day, so that every common deed will be touched with the glow of thy presence. Amen.

When we cannot see our way,
Let us trust, and still obey;
He who bids us forward go,
Cannot fall the way to show.

Thomas Kelly.

The Editor continues his travel story, "All Roads—Toronto" in

Land of the Maple Leaf

My introduction to Canada was, to say the least, unexpected. At first, on the day I crossed the border, all had gone well. A taxi, driven with unusual (and welcome!) care, had brought me from my Buffalo home to the station in ample time to connect with the train for St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada, where I was due to preach on the following Sunday. The railways, also, had been on their best behaviour, bringing me to St. Thomas right on scheduled time after a pleasant journey of two-and-a-half hours. En route, Canadian customs and immigration officials had checked on cases and passports with courteous efficiency. With the sun shining brightly, everything had promised a warm welcome to Canada.

Delayed—But Warm

But at St. Thomas, there was no one to meet me. That had happened once or twice before, in all my journeyings, so, with philosophy born of experience, I sat and waited for an out-of-breath preacher to arrive, profuse with apologies! But no one came. At last, I dialled his phone number; there was no answer. I left my cases with the friendly station-master, and, armed with directions supplied by him, set out to find the manse. After ten minutes' walking I found it; there was no one at home. I enquired next door, if the folk there knew anything of the preacher's movements. "Oh, yes," was the rather staggering answer, "he is away on holidays!" "When is he due back?" I managed to ask. "Oh, not for another week or so!"

Clearly, something had gone wrong with original arrangements, as far as I was concerned, as the preacher's name was all I knew about the St. Thomas church. But when I questioned the neighbors further, they knew of an elder of the church who lived not far away. Another five minutes' walk brought me to his home. The open front door cheered me with the knowledge that someone was home—but not the elder, as it turned out; he was at a camp. His wife and mother-in-law soon invited me in, and there was some quick phoning while they tried to unravel the mystery of who should have met me. The mother-in-law, learning that I had just come from America, started to make me a cup of coffee, but her daughter told her I was an Australian, and suggested tea instead—smart, as well as hospitable! They

were upset that I should have had such an introduction to their city, but the welcome was all the warmer for being delayed and impromptu.

Lorne Nethercott, our only other minister in the city, called for me early in the afternoon, and, after showing me the sights, including his own new chapel at Yarmouth Heights (where I was to preach on the Sunday night), shared afternoon tea with me at his home and took me to the folk who were to give me hospitality during my stay. Almost the first thing my hostess said to me was, "Have you any washing?" Nothing wrong with that kind of welcome! As I sat in my room, writing a letter just before the evening meal, I looked out of the window just in time to see the lady in the house opposite emptying out her tea-pot. After all the tea-bags of America, the sight of that tea-pot being emptied really set the seal on my welcome.

Contrasts and Churches

In more ways than one, I felt nearer home than at any stage in my travels. There were immediate contrasts with life as I had seen it in the States. Church buildings were smaller, much more along the Australian pattern. The roads looked much more like our own, with jalopies and smaller-type cars rubbing fenders with more modern, elegant models. But if there were some signs of the "poor relation" as contrasted with some American cities I had seen, there was certainly the opposite spirit behind some of the jaunty notices I saw in Canadian stores, reminding American tourists that the Canadian dollar was worth two cents more than the American!

Despite the near-century heat and high humidity on the Sunday, I enjoyed my first fellowship with Canadian churches. There were about sixty present in the attractive St. Thomas chapel in the morning, when the communion service was more like the normal Australian morning service than anything I had experienced elsewhere. When I went to Yarmouth Heights at night I found the chapel bathed in the still-fierce late afternoon sun, and the temperature inside was high in the eighties. But for all that, it was an enjoyable gospel service, with 42 present. The building here is the newest in our Canadian brotherhood, and had the

distinction of being featured on T.V. during its building ceremonies. But we were not sorry to leave its close atmosphere behind us after the service, when the Nethercotts drove me the nine miles to Port Stanley, a holiday resort on Lake Erie.

The cooler air we found there became a wistful memory the next day, when the heat was even more intense. Equally warm was the hospitality of the St. Thomas folk, a number of whom invited me to their homes or to share picnic outings with them. They were certainly determined to make me feel welcome in Canada! In between visits, I managed to press on with preparation of my Convention sermon, and other writing work.

Ontario Churches

On the Wednesday, I began a planned tour of some of the Ontario churches. The Nethercotts drove me thirty miles to Rodney, a rural town of 900 population. The church there combined with members in the neighboring town of West Lorne for a meeting that night. Unfortunately, a thunderstorm broke over the town not long before the meeting, and there were only seventeen present. But they were keen to learn of Australian church life, and I enjoyed fellowship with them—though I was rather taken aback when, after the talk, the chairman announced an offering "to help our brother on his way!" However, I managed to keep a straight face—and the dollars, quarters, dimes, etc. which were handed to me afterwards. This happened to me once again in my Canadian travels, when the chairman called it a "love-gift." I accepted both gestures in that spirit, for there was no doubting the warm goodwill of these fine folk, whatever their method of expressing it.

In the morning, an eighty-one year old member, Lusty by name as well as by nature, drove me round the district and showed me fruit orchards, tobacco and corn fields, oil wells, and fishermen washing their nets (via machinery!) on the shores of Lake Erie—a varied assortment of activities centred around the little towns.

In the afternoon the wife of the chairman of the Official Board drove me to Mapleton, where I spoke that night to about thirty people, including some fine young people, under whose sponsorship the meeting was held.

FRANK HUNTING, minister, Ballarat, Vic., writes on the urgent need for . . .

SPIRITUAL COUNSELLING

The greatest need in some lives is to have a competent spiritual counsellor with whom they can sit at ease, quietly finding a solution to the problems, spiritual in origin, which are making life intolerable for them. A broken home, a drunken parent, a long illness, a tragic experience, a wandering into questionable ways of living, and many other experiences are producing numbers of folk who are unable in one way or another to cope adequately with life.

In order to find a normally adjusted way of living, these folk need the help of a spiritual counsellor. They need someone who will give them the necessary time to get themselves sorted out and to find the way to live life adequately and happily. We in the churches have thought the psychologists or psychiatrists were the people such needy folk should consult. In many cases this is so, but whilst many maladjustments manifest themselves as being psychological in nature, they are spiritual in origin and therefore need a spiritual solution. Neither psychological suggestion, treatment or analysis, nor medical sedative is the real answer.

Looking for the Answer

People may be suffering from an unrecognised bad conscience caused by sin, which they, because of modern rationalisation of sin, do not recognise. Hence, although they have seen doctors and psychiatrists, they have not found the answer. The reason being, of course, that sin is a fact, and works its havoc, whether a person recognises it or not. But as they are patiently shown that the cause of the trouble is sin, as viewed through the eyes of Jesus, and that sin can be cleansed at his cross, a new way of living begins to open.

Others, because of the emotional upsets of childhood or adolescence, find themselves overwhelmed by the ordinary business of living. One such person, who had already had a bad nervous breakdown, and had been told by a nurse to expect another, was attending a psychologist, but was making little headway. A year of patient spiritual counselling produced an entirely new personality, which today is hardly recognisable. There is a growing radiancy, due to the obvious fact that a faith in Christ which really worked is being discovered.

One, whose parent had died from a disease which could be inherited, came to believe that he was manifesting the same symptoms. The

doctor, tired of a healthy person coming for treatment, said he could do no more. This only confirmed the belief that it really was an incurable disease, such as that from which the parent had died. Soon the belief grew that others were closely watching, and that certain symptoms were definitely appearing. Three or four months of spiritual counselling established a healthy mental attitude to himself. Faith and a surrender to Jesus were able to save, not only the person concerned but his loved ones, from a life which would have been distressingly neurotic.

Jesus' Delivering Word

People who need this specialised help are both in and out of our churches, but the help they need is not found in the ordinary functioning of the church life and activity.

They need a spiritual counsellor who can reach behind the troubles, difficulties, frustrations and emotional tangles and read the deep-down inner causes of the upset, showing them solutions through finding a working faith in a living Saviour.

Many of the causes which produce neurotics or neurotic tendencies are found in hatred, fear, resentments, wrong attitudes to oneself, God or someone else, and these are sin. It is surprising the powerful grip and the havoc these things can play in the lives of people. No word of authority can be spoken to these things, which is sufficiently strong to break their power, save the delivering word which Jesus alone can speak. But it isn't good enough to tell a person that Jesus can save him; he often has to be shown what is the trouble with him and then patiently shown how he must take his malady to Jesus, either for cleansing or guidance.

Ministers Must Help!

Sometimes it may take a surprisingly short time to help a person or it may take a series of interviews of at least an hour's duration over a year or more. Jesus was always available to people, but we are so often cluttered up with the demands of organisation, etc., that we have no time to sit at leisure with people in order to help them. The minister does not compete with the doctor or psychologist. He helps people in his own right of being a man who can help people to God, and to all the spiritual resources God can make available for living. Nothing that I

know of in our college courses trains men for this urgent and specialised counselling. Most students would be too immature, and in themselves not sufficiently developed emotionally, to be able to recognise the need and help in this way. But they do need to be made aware that this is an urgently needed ministry to people, so that when they have sufficient experience behind them, they will seek to become skilled in this work.

Ministers of long experience are often surprisingly blind to the real need of spiritual counselling in the lives of some of their people. They do not read the signs in people with need for this kind of pastoral help or, if they do see the need, they do not understand how to give the help. There are ministers who are coming to understand that what a number of people need is someone who will sit down with them, at leisure, to help them unravel their emotional or perplexing difficulties. But even these men may be at a loss as to how to get at the real causes of upset in people's lives, and even when they can see causes they may not know how to help to find the answers.

There is an urgent need for ministers who are seeking to grapple with this need to have round table conferences where they can share experiences and pool the work they are doing, so as to help each other and, perhaps, help others get started on this much needed ministry.



Sunday morning services will be broadcast from churches at Margaret-st., Launceston, Tas.) over 7NT on Nov. 20) and at Bendigo, Vic. (over 3BO on Nov. 27). The Bendigo broadcast will mark the church's 89th anniversary, and B. F. Huntsman, Vic.-Tas. Conf. Pres., will be the speaker.

Among appreciative letters recently received was one from Daryl Cartmel, graduate of our Federal College, and now a missionary with the Christian and Missionary Alliance at Mission House, Bhusawal, E. Khandesh, India. "I am always happy to see the 'Christians' in the mail," he writes, and goes on to show how the paper's ministry is appreciated in unexpected places. Another appreciative writer is W. H. Nightingale, of Como, W.A., who adds, "If the Lord spares me to labor on for him until July, 1956, it will mark the golden jubilee of my ministry, which commenced at Ma Ma Creek, Qld. in July, 1906"—a splendid record, indeed.

MISSIONARY NEWS

Annual Meetings, India

Jubilee celebrations and annual meetings were held, Sept. 27—Oct. 2. Annual reports show that, despite many problems, steady progress is being maintained.

Baramati Friendship Centre Report

Once every year we consider and assess the impact of the F.C. on the literati and the intelligentsia of our people. We find that these recent phases of our work have brought about a noticeable change in the attitude of the non-Christians towards foreign missionaries generally, and Christian work particularly. In any Christian enterprise, this fact of mental attitude on the part of the recipients of the gospel message is a very important factor. It is stated that our Lord himself could not do much mighty work in his own home-town on account of the peculiar mental attitude of his people towards him. When the omnipotent Son of God himself was limited by the attitude of the people, how much more are we hindered by the attitude of the people towards the Christian message. In modern terminology, the creation of such conducive mental attitude is often stated as making contacts with the people, the importance of which is admitted by all.

That the native tendency of the natural man is estranged from God, and the things of God, is the primary postulate of Biblical teaching. "The natural man receiveth not the things of God!" Hence the need for preventive grace, to soften the stubborn attitude of man and make him turn towards Christ, is another of the basic teachings of our Bible.

The study of history also lends support to this statement. For two thousand years there was positive preparation for the coming of the Messiah and his gospel. And the most significant fact of early Christianity is that the first converts were from Judaism, where there was this positive preparation, and even the Gentile converts in the first and second centuries were drawn from those who had come in contact with the Jews of the dispersion by the means of their synagogue messages and the LXX translation of the O.T.

I bring these in to show the need for the preventive preparation of the gospel. The Law must come in before Grace.

The Friendship Centres may act as useful institutions in bringing about a change of attitude in the non-Christian people and thus preparing the ground for active evangelisation.

With these remarks I may mention that the membership at the Baramati F.C. has risen to 1,200 men and 1,050 women. The juvenile membership at present consists of 180 boys and 75 girls.

Outdoor games, such as tennis and badminton, have been suspended temporarily for the duration of the rainy season, but indoor games are maintained, of which the most popular is table tennis, with a membership of 45 men and 15 women.

The desire for the Word of God is

Dhorja Boys' Home Report

Our numbers in the Boys' Home remained around 30 most of the year. This year, however, we are likely to be over this number by 3 or 4.

As we have no provision for sickness, we send lads either to their

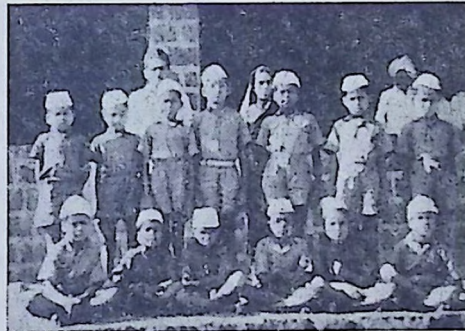
growing. There have been requests for 15 Bibles. Those have been met by a generous gift for the free distribution of the Word of God. Quite an unusual thing along this line is the desire on the part of the orthodox Muslims to read the Bible in Persian Urdu. This has also been met from the same source.

Many enquiries have been made regarding the Christian position, and explanations have been given, but it is impossible to describe them here.

Another form of evangelistic activity at the Centre—the presentation of the Christian message by means of the amplifying unit—has been temporarily interrupted by the dislocation of certain paraphernalia. These will be replaced very soon, and the activities resumed.

In conclusion, I wish to record my sincere and profound gratitude to the Home Board, the Australian brotherhood, and to many individual members for their interest in the continuance of this work. The immediate need is for more accommodation
—John Bairagi.

with some of the teachers and the house father, have gone on preaching excursions to the nearby juttras during the year. At such places they have given a faithful witness to their Lord and Saviour, and been able to sell a



homes (if they are not too sick) or to our Dhond Hospital, if it is considered that they need to go there. During the last year there were a number of occasions on which we had to send lads to their homes or to Dhond. There is a disadvantage in this, which will not be quickly remedied. We find: (1) Parents do not take the care they should, which results in the delay of recovery; and (2) Parents sometimes keep the children home longer than necessary, in order to have a little additional help in their fields, etc. Against this, of course, is the fact that it saves our staff being burdened with sick lads, and this is a real consideration, seeing Dhorja is so isolated.

As in the past, our lads, together

number of Scripture portions and distribute tracts.

Results in our Vernacular Final exams were not as good this year as they have been in the last two years. This, naturally, is disappointing, but the fault lies not with the teaching but with the irregular attendance of so many of the day scholars. We feel confident that this year, once again, we will have good results from the lads in our Boys' Home.

One again, we thank God for the provision of this village Boys' Home, which continues to meet a very real need among the villages of our area.
—B. V. Coventry.

(This Home should not be confused with the Baramati Boys' Home, which has 120 inmates.)

New South Wales Newsletter

Ethelbert Davis

A week or two ago, in sentencing a young man of 24 to life imprisonment for rape and murder, Justice McClemens issued a strong warning on the dangers of drink. His Honor said, "The philosophy that is so prevalent, that there is something noble and heroic in drinking, is often the despair of educators and parents."

He added: "This is one of the dangers that so many young people can never face up to, but it is the duty of their parents to see that they do. I wish that some of the young people—people still in their teens—who think it so noble to drink in hotels, could go to the prisons to see what it does."

THE BIBLE IN EASTERN EUROPE.

Dr. Marcel Pradervand, secretary-general of the World Presbyterian Alliance, who is visiting Australia, on the way to Indonesia from Geneva, gave some interesting information in a recent address. He said that the Bible was coming into its own in Eastern Europe more than ever before, and that Reformation Sunday was being commemorated in the churches of the Reformed Faith throughout the world.

Continuing, he said, "Patient, thoughtful reading of the Bible brings truth home to people with such conviction that they move with a new sense of freedom and fearlessness among their fellows. All over the world I have found groups of people making this experience through the study of the Christian Scriptures. If we are to enjoy a wholesome, well-balanced relationship with our neighbors, we must place God's Word at the centre."

VISIT TO BOWRAL

Quite recently, the students and faculty of the Woolwich Bible College paid a visit to Bowral, and had fellowship with some of the members of the church. Morning tea, dinner and afternoon tea were prepared and served by the ladies. After dinner, a drive round the sights of the town was enjoyed by all. The church at Bowral is erecting a new church building, which is nearing completion. It is really a beautiful building, centrally situated.

By the way, talking of new buildings. One is impressed, when visiting the new housing settlements, to see five or six church buildings a few hundred yards from each other. Each church is anxious to play its own part, and to bear its own witness; but one cannot get away from the idea of overlapping, with waste of time and energy, and money, and the

perpetuation of divisions. Is there any truth in the claim of one church leader that there is greater need now for competition between the churches than ever before?

MURWILLUMBAH.

We have written several times about Murwillumbah during the past twelve months, and the church's desire to have a district evangelist. The latest is that the church has purchased a block of ground in a flood-free area, where there is no other church. They have also purchased a building and are having it removed and erected on the block of land procured. That is a large undertaking for the small but courageous group of disciples. One only needs to know the folk there to appreciate the sacrifice, and at the same time, the joy it means to them.

MISSIONS

The highlight of the church news for Sydney at present, is missions.

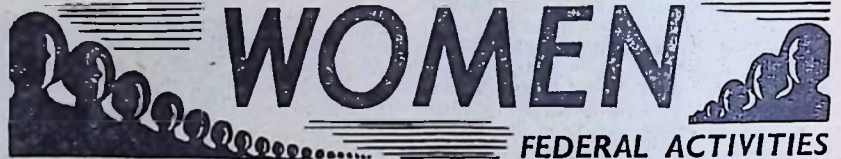
Marrickville has closed a tent mission with W. Howard as missionary. There were splendid attendances throughout, with good delegations from sister churches. There were eight decisions and nine reconsecrations.

During October, the church at Lidcombe, where Lyle Wylie is preacher, ran a special campaign with J. Shaw as missionary. Good attendances were recorded throughout the campaign, and the church was considerably helped.

A tent mission is being conducted by the church at Fairfield, with W. Turnell as missionary. This campaign is being run by the local forces. Enthusiasm is running high, and the prayers of the brotherhood are coveted.

Another mission is being planned at Wyoming. This mission is scheduled for the holiday period, Jan. 1 to Feb. 12, aiming to catch holiday-makers. Glen Brown, preacher of the church at Bankstown, will be the missionary.

THE MINISTRIES OF OUR



Young Women's Fellowship

Mrs. E. Wickham, Vic.

The Young Women's Fellowship connected with Victorian-Tasmanian Women's Conference, is a virile group and one which is growing rapidly.

About seven years ago, Women's Conference Executive was very concerned that so many young married and business women were out of our women's programme. There seemed no step between girls' clubs and Women's Mission Bands. Many young married women felt uncomfortable with young children at an afternoon meeting. To link up all women with Conference the Young Women's Fellowship was set up as a department of Conference. Although a few groups had been working in their local churches, there had not been any combined work. At the commencement six groups met together with representatives of Women's Conference and formed Y.W.F. Executive, and now there are thirty-six groups working in Victoria.

One very noteworthy feature of their work is the number of non-church members in their groups. The mothers of B.S. scholars are very keen members, and enjoy the programmes arranged. The programme is based on the four-square basis—spiritual, social, educational and recreational. The handcraft nights are always enjoyed and appreciated. By their interesting programmes the Y.W.F. are introducing these mothers of B.S. scholars to church life, and because of the Y.W.F. many have been led to surrender to Christ as Lord.

The Y.W.F. groups are very interested in missionary work. They send £52 per year to the Aborigine Committee to be used towards the expenses for secondary education of an aborigine girl, Duxie Bateman, who is attending high school. This money is for the extras and clothing. Duxie is with Mr. and Mrs. Bond, and they have written a letter which is circulated among all groups. The remainder of the money raised by groups during the year is paid to-

wards Win. Beale's (Waterman) salary and she also sends letters to the groups. Last year they contributed £50, and also as an extra raised £63/5/- for a shower tea to Win., prior to her marriage. £95 was also given to the F.M. Board for Visual Aid for Islands. From this you will agree they are very missionary-minded, and are training well for our other women's groups.

Their activities have also been practical in helping the C.M.S. at the College effort.

A highlight of the year among Y.W.F. members is the week-end spent at camp. Each year they have this week-end away from their families, and enjoy the fellowship and study. This year the topic for discussion will be Women's Place in the World Church.

You will agree from the fore-going that this is a very promising, energetic part of Women's Conference, and that to a certain extent the aim

of bringing all our women into Conference work has been achieved. Yet there is still room for improvement. Some seem worried that the Y.W.F. members are not graduating to the Mission Bands. During the visit of Mrs. Snodgrass, the working of the Women's Fellowship in America was explained and soon afterwards the Victoria and Tasmania Conference adopted the overall name of Women's Fellowship for various groups, suggesting that an executive be formed in each church, comprising representatives of all women's groups such as Mission Bands, Y.W.F., Dorcas, Ladies' Aid, etc., to co-ordinate the work; and each group would carry the name of Women's Fellowship—Dorcas group, or Mission Band group, etc. Some churches have adopted this method and the work is doing well. At the beginning of the year in some churches, the leaders of various groups meet and talk over the year's work. This has resulted in a feeling of unity. Other groups meet together once every three months at night.

Gradually the Y.W.F. groups are getting to know and work with the other groups, and it is only when they work together that a common interest develops, and this will lead to members of each group working together in various activities. Working together with our hands is a wonderful opportunity to get to know each other. One church held a banquet arranged by the combined groups and it was a wonderful success. Mothers of scholars worked with church members they hadn't known before and all enjoyed the fellowship in service. Perhaps an exchange of missionary letters each month between Y.W.F. and Mission Bands would lead to better understanding and co-operation, as all would have common interests.

It is when a need is felt that everyone helps, and when we all realise the great need of the world today, the various groups will work together for the extension of Christ's Kingdom.



Central Committee, W.C.C.

Meetings of the Central Committee of the W.C.C. were sandwiched between the conference of the Big Four and the conference of atomic scientists; the former were seeking a formula for world peace and the latter were discussing the potentiality, for good or evil, of atomic energy.

The General Secretary, Dr. W. A. Visser't Hooft, stressed in his annual report that the W.C.C. is opposed to a "single unified Church structure dominated by a centralised administrative authority."

The meetings of the Committee had two emphases: (a) a rediscovery of the local and personal; (b) a resurgent sense of mission.

More than at any previous meeting of the Central Committee it was realised that "the ecumenical task must be carried on with a local emphasis, while the local task must be undertaken with an ecumenical vision."

It was further stressed that it is not enough for church leaders to understand one another at the summit. The people in the pews and the ordinary general public must be kept informed as to what the Council is doing.

A new department has been formed to promote co-operation between men and women in the Christian community,

and arrangements were made to develop and make "more intensely personal and spiritual" the work carried on among youth.

The W.C.C. is called upon to demonstrate that it understands the aspirations of church-people in general. In an attempt to meet the criticism that it is supremely interested in organisation, the Council is to make an attempt to explore "that basic experience of Jesus Christ and of communion with him which transcends all denominational barriers." More study is to be given to "the new man in Christ."

The mutual sharing of Christian experience across confessional boundaries would contribute much to the cause of unity, it was said.

A SENSE OF MISSION

From its formation the World Council of Churches has worked in close association with the International Missionary Council, so that today the ecumenical movement is dedicated to fulfil the Mission of the Church and to achieve the unity of the Church throughout the earth.

Mission and unity must eventually become one, but the "structure problem" should not become an obsession or engross time and energy that should be given to redemptive action. If the Body of Christ is to match the present

hour, Churches and Christians must be prepared to serve. "Christ needs servants, not patrons or masters."

John A. Mackay, President of the International Missionary Council, who attended the meetings of the Central Committee, records his conviction that "the Holy Spirit has not yet exhausted structural possibilities for the living Church of Christ in the world." If Christian Churches or Movements are not to become mere historical memories their supreme concern must be to become effective organs of the redemptive Will of Christ.—(Christian Advocate, Sept. 9, 1955).

(Contributed by C. L. Smith for the Federal Committee for the Promotion of Christian Union.)



Victorian church secretaries holding any outstanding Aborigine Missions offering money are asked to forward it promptly to W. Wigney, 29 Thames-st., Box Hill, E.11. Mr. Wigney wishes to finalise his books for the year.

An advertisement in this issue announces the National Christian Adult Convention, planned to be held at the Exhibition Building, Melbourne, Jan. 8 to 15, 1956. Mission to the Nation organisers are hoping to have among the delegates representatives from all parts of Australia, the Pacific Islands and parts of Asia. The Convention is open to all, and it is hoped that it may be a time of great ecumenical fellowship. The Convention theme will be, "Faith at Work."

here and there

In view of A. J. Fisher's impending departure from W.A., Ray Vincent, Dip.Soc.Sci., has been appointed to succeed him as editor of "The Western Christian," monthly paper of our Western churches. Mr. Fisher's excellent editorial ministry has been combined with his work as preacher of the church at Lake-st., Perth.

A telegram received at this office on Nov. 7 reported: "Crown-st., Toowoomba church, Qld. Hart-McGregor mission. One decision last night."

Soon after the Woolwich Bible College year ends on Nov. 18, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Elliott will be leaving for Britain. Mr. Elliott, who has been Acting-Principal of the N.S.W. College in Mr. Stephenson's absence, has been released by the College Board for two years' leave of absence, in order to pursue further studies in Great Britain.

In connection with last week's note re Victorian Presbyterians' rejection of support for an immediate invitation to Dr. Billy Graham, it should be noted that they also decided that the Moderator and the convener of the Life and Work Committee should attend preliminary conferences being held with regard to Dr. Graham's coming, and report to the Commission at the Assembly next year.

A "Bible mission" commenced in a tent at Fairfield Heights, N.S.W., on Nov. 2. W. A. Turnell, preacher of the church at Fairfield, is the missionary. A large congregation attended the first meeting.

Record gatherings marked the 98th church anniversary of the Latrobe-terr., church at Geelong, Vic., on Oct. 30. Guest speaker for the day was Principal E. L. Williams, M.A. The morning service was broadcast over 3GL and was presided over by the minister, T. A. Fergusson. 176 were present in the morning, 150 at the P.S.A. (programme arranged by Mrs. J. Ball), and 150 at night. The choir, led by Mrs. E. Foletta, with George Hinde as organist, helped acceptably during the day, rendering at night a number of Elin choruses, with the congregation joining in after each one had been sung. This was a pleasing feature of the meeting. Many visitors were present on the Sunday, as well as at the Church Tea on Saturday, the 29th. These included, Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Stewart (a former

minister and his wife), A. W. Kelley (Nathalia), the only remaining deacon of those who negotiated the purchase of the present chapel 48 years ago, and Mrs. Thomas (East Kew), who was associated with the church in the days of Gilbert Chandler. 40 young people and children had tea and entertainment in the kinder and 90 were present in the church hall, to hear interesting reminiscences, and to enjoy a delightful programme arranged by Mrs. P. Drayton. The Anniversary Gift Offering, received all day on the Sunday, amounted to £154. This will augment the New Hall Fund. The anniversary arrangements were in the hands of a committee, the chairman of which was H. Russenberg.—T.A.F.

After five years' ministry with the church at Bassendean, W.A., C. J. Robinson (present W.A. President) will enter upon an engagement with the Claremont church early next year.

The Southern District Convention was held at Kellevie, Tas., during the first week-end in November. Attendance, interest and weather were good throughout. The theme of the Convention was "The Christian Way," and on the two days the devotional aspects of the topic were ably presented by visiting speakers. A pleasing feature was the good attendance of young people, the Peninsula churches (Highcroft and Nubeena) being represented by many on both days.

The Jack Christie Case

It is now several months since mention was made in the A.C. of the British missionary, Jack Christie, in India, having been sentenced to eight months' imprisonment with hard labor.

In this British Mission in Bihar, Keith and Ruth Skillcorn from Brighton church, Vic., are co-workers with the Christies. Mr. Skillcorn, realising that an appeal to the Higher Courts would be a costly process, felt the Australian brethren would desire to help financially, especially when we learnt that, prior to the trial, there were two years of delays and postponements in the Indian Courts, which cost our British brethren about £1,200.

The same legal procrastination is now happening regarding the Appeal

Case. Four times it has been adjourned without reason, and legal outlays are incurred each time. The influential British Weekly comments on the Christie Case: "His Indian barrister said, 'In my professional experience of 28 years, I have never come across a more fabricated case put up by the Prosecution.'" The State of Madhya Pradesh has been the scene of violent expressions of hostility towards Christians.

Mr. Christie is out on bail at present. His furlough is long overdue.

We now appeal to churches and individual members to assist in raising £625 (equal to £500 sterling). We have at present £90 in hand.

Please send donations either to: T. R. Morris, 93 Wilson-st., Brighton, Vic., or J. A. Wilkie, 1104 Dava-st., Ballarat, Vic.

We request earnest prayer in this matter!

For Indonesia



Miss Lucy Griffiths

Miss Lucy Griffiths, member of the church at Cheltenham, Vic., will leave Melbourne on Feb. 14 next, for Indonesia. Miss Griffiths will take up her appointment as a staff member of the National Missionary Commission of the Indonesian Council of Churches. She will be personal secretary to Dr. Winburn T. Thomas, Overseas Missions representative in Indonesia of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. The appointment is for two years and duties will include general office administration, secretarial work and some executive responsibilities.

Miss Griffiths, who has been office secretary for the Australian Commission for Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees, has also given valuable honorary services to the Australian Christian Youth Council and the Victorian committee. She is a helper in the kindergarten of her home church.

World Convention Study Committee Organised

Jesse M. Bader,
General Secretary, World Convention

The Toronto World Convention voted to continue its study programme which was inaugurated at the 1952 Melbourne Convention. The study programme proved to be so popular and worthwhile, that there was a unanimous action at Toronto that they be enlarged and continued.

The three officers of the new committee, who have been appointed to serve until the Edinburgh World Convention, 1960, are—Dean O. L. Shelton, School of Religion, Butler University, Indianapolis, Indiana, chairman; Dean Stephen J. England, College of the Bible, Phillips University, Enid, Oklahoma, vice-chairman; and Jesse M. Bader, General Secretary of the World Convention will serve as the secretary of the Committee.

The Central Committee, composed of 21 members, held its first meeting in Indianapolis on Sept. 30. It selected six new subjects for study between now and the Edinburgh World Convention. These are:

- The Theology of Evangelism.
- The Nature of the Unity We Seek.
- Who is Jesus Christ?
- The Authority in Revelation.
- The Congregation and the Body of Christ.
- The Ethical Demands of the Gospel.

The Central Committee has set up 34 committees in 19 countries. Each committee, which will average about 12 members, has been assigned one of the above six subjects for study. Each manuscript, which each one of the committees will produce, will be about 2,500 words in length. These manuscripts, if present plans carry, will be studied in groups of about 100 each, at the Edinburgh Convention.

The six manuscripts studied at the Toronto World Convention are being printed in pamphlet form. These six pamphlets will be off press by Jan. 1 next year, and will be available to the churches, conventions and groups for their consideration and study. Information concerning prices will be announced by Dec. 1.

A group of our ministers in Oklahoma City and Cleveland are meeting once each week now, for a study of the subjects which were considered at Toronto.

The Churches of Christ (Disciples) around the world are going to school again and if the Toronto experience

means anything, they like it. As a world brotherhood we are going to know a lot more than we know now, about theology and what we believe as a communion, before we get to Edinburgh. God has never put a premium on ignorance.

American Journey

A. W. Stephenson, M.A.

From Fort Worth, Texas, we went to Oklahoma City. Here we saw "Bill" Alexander's Church of Tomorrow. Mr. Alexander is considered by some to be the most widely known Disciple preacher in U.S.A. He has a personality that draws large crowds and makes him a widely sought after speaker at popular rallies. The ultra modern design of the new church building is the talk of the city. To us it resembles a huge dome, set on the ground. The complete church plant will cost two million dollars. We understand that the church has most of this sum in hand.

Our next stop was at St. Louis. My programme for Sunday required me to speak at four services. There were large attendances at each centre. On Monday, after a visit to the Christian Board of Publication, W. Starn, who drew up our St. Louis programme, took us to a local school to give the children a geography lesson on Australia. The children had read all they could lay their hands on about Australia and could answer all the questions I put to them. When asked by one small boy if Australians talk "cockney," I replied, "No, we speak English." The teacher smiled!

The women of the Christian churches held a district meeting on Tuesday, to give Mrs. Stephenson an opportunity to speak. There was much interest shown by a large group in the work the women are doing in Australia.

By Wednesday, we were at Indianapolis, where we had a grand time meeting friends who had been in Australia — Ira Paternoster, Jessie Trout, Mr. and Mrs. Mark Rutherford, Spencer Austin and W. Wickizer.

My visit here was connected mainly with the Butler School of Religion. Here there are 319 students working for their B.D. degrees. I gave three lectures to students and faculty, and was then invited to speak to the faculty. In the course of an interesting discussion I was asked to speak about the place of the Christian ministry in Australia. Certain false notions have been spread abroad here, and I had to assure all that respect for preachers in Australian churches had grown in recent years, and that churches in Australia were anxious to have a highly trained ministry.

News of British Churches

Overdale College re-union was held in Birmingham at the beginning of October. The College Governors met in the morning for business, following which the President of Conference, S. Mason, preached the College sermon. F. W. White presided at a public meeting, which was supported by friends of the College from many parts of the country. A. L. Brown spoke of satisfactory progress being made in every department of College life. J. E. Francis, minister at Saffron-Jane, Leicester, and Mrs. Brown, also gave addresses. The offering was £400.

Churches of Christ and Baptists in the Furness district have already shared in several common enterprises. Recently a meeting for Baptist lay preachers was held at which S. Oakden, minister in the Furness district, gave an address on sermon construction. A further meeting of the two communions has been arranged.

The small church at Riddings, Derbyshire, has made many improvements to its premises during recent years. The latest is a rebuilding and extension of the entrance. W. Mander, of Leicester, conducted a dedicatory service which included a church clock and pews. Goodwill messages were received from local churches and from brethren who had known the church for many years. The offering for the Building Fund amounted to £280.

Whilst the case of the missionary J. C. Christie is still sub judice, it is difficult to print news from India. In order to keep churches in touch with developments, the chairman of the Missionary Committee and other members are speaking in the churches and at united meetings, giving up-to-date information of the situation. Mr. and Mrs. Victor Smith, on furlough from Nyasaland, are doing much deputation work. They expect to return to Africa next February.

Members of the British delegation to the World Convention at Toronto are sharing their experiences with the churches. Recently Mrs. H. Ambler gave an account of her visit to Toronto, at the autumn rally of the Liverpool women. Some have shared their experiences through the pages of the *Christian Advocate*.

The speakers at the London Association autumn rally adopted an unusual approach to the subject given them: Evangelism among young people. One took the part of a keen youth worker; the other was a church member with little interest in specialised work among the young. The discussion showed that the points of the argument "got over."

Gloucester church celebrated the centenary of the birth of its founder-pastor E. H. Spring. Three surviving daughters and a grandson were present at the services.—G. J. Hammond.



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

Discipleship

- Bev. and Alan McNicol, Kingaroy, Qld.
Beth and Dorothy Maxfield, Jean Price, Kalamunda, W.A.
Elson Smith, Fullarton, S.A.
Marie Bruce, Colin Rose, Morwell, Vic.
Ian and Margaret Everett, Helen Flanders, Jim Cini, Andrew Webster, Ormond, Vic.
Mrs. E. Mitchell and Margaret Clark, Latrobe-terr., Geelong, Vic.
Marilyn Edgar, Ann McCallum, Joan Eldridge, Gwen Pascoe, Kaye Mehegan, Springvale, Vic.

Membership

- Mr. and Mrs. Whitley, from Sydney, N.S.W., to Kalamunda, W.A.
Mrs. MacLean, from South Yarra to Ivanhoe, Vic.
R. Yale, from Footscray to Ivanhoe, Vic.
F. Stone, from Fairfield to Ivanhoe, Vic.
Mrs. Smith, Mr. Boetcher, to Mackay, Qld.

Marriage

- Barbara Jolliffe to Don Baxter, Inverell, N.S.W.

Western Australia

Kalamunda (A. Hutson). — Third annual meeting was held on Oct. 30. H. Price was chairman. Very good reports were received from each phase of church activities. Deacons and officers were elected for ensuing year. Owing to difficulties arising from town planning scheme, no progress has been made. However, the Roads Board have suggested an alternative site, and church decided to accept their offer subject to Lands Department endorsement. Sec. reported loss of two members by death and transfer. However, three have recently made their decision and a married couple with family have been received by transfer. Mr. Price reported on progress of Karagullen B.S. which cele-

brates its 10th anniversary during Nov. They have an enrolment of 40. Kalamunda B.S. reported 42 on roll brates its 10th anniversary during new supt. at Kalamunda. Church building fund now stands at £420.

South Perth (S. H. Wilson). — B.S. anniversary held Oct. 23 and 30 was outstanding success. Children's rendering of The Holy City thrilled all present. Building was taxed to capacity. Afternoon of 30th was Cradle Roll and kinder session. Kinders gave a delightful programme. On Nov. 2, school dramatisation, Ploughshares and Pruning Hooks, was presented to large gathering in local community hall; prizes were also distributed. On 6th, two adults made good confession and there was one reconsecration. P. Jefferies addressed morning meeting. Youth tea was addressed by D. Hammer. Over past few weeks, Thursday evening prayer meeting folk have been attending Cottesloe Mission. Attendances are being maintained and keen interest is shown. Large number gathered for barbecue and bonfire at Riverton on 5th. I.C.E. holds interest of Y.P. with H. Heyhoe, leader. 122 were present at gospel meeting on 6th, when 134 communed for the day. Men's Fellowship met on 13th, when F. Stephenson addressed meeting. Mrs. L. Bearsby has left on trip to Melbourne. Preacher conducts Religious Instruction in all local schools. All auxiliaries continue in good heart.

Tasmania

Launceston, Margaret-st. (C. H. J. Wright). — Oct. averages showed good increases over previous month. 11 a.m., 93; 7 p.m., 86; communed, 116. 71st church anniversary was an inspiration to all, with E. L. Williams as guest speaker. Temple Day offering exceeded £250. Visit of Miss B. Bates was great help and encouragement to youth leaders and B.S. staff. Miss Lorna Holden spoke to recent meeting of Y.W.F. on Norseman Mission and its work. Mrs. M. Wilson is now president of Y.W.F. J.C.E. is very active. The Juniors held social evening to which they each brought a gift for Norseman Mission. Juniors also gave 15/- to recent C.O.B. offering. Keen interest is being maintained in I.C.E. B.S. created new attendance record on 23rd with 123 children present. Seven new scholars were enrolled during Oct. C.M.S. recently held "working bee" in garden of a member now in hospital. C.M.S. now meets fortnightly instead of monthly. Ladies' Guild has forwarded Christmas parcel to "Living Link." Guild has also been responsible for new lino in school kitchen and new curtains

in school hall. Miss Gloria Spinks is now in Townsville. Church has decided to instal a new A.W.B. polychord electronic organ. Recent interstate visitors have included Miss Stewart (Dandenong), Mr. and Mrs. Prince and Mr. Farmer (East Kew), Mr. and Mrs. Barham (Sydney) and Miss G. Batterham (India).

Queensland

Kingaroy (P. French). — In Sept., Corndale B.S. celebrated its first anniversary, which was well attended, and an enjoyable afternoon was spent by all. Capt. Barlow (Kingaroy Salvation Army) was guest speaker. Since conclusion of mission, there have been two more decisions. Oct. 30 was Kingaroy B.S. anniversary. S. Vanham (State Conf. Pres.) was guest speaker for day. Mrs. Horne is still in hospital. Mrs. Adermann has returned from visit to Toowoomba. Baptismal service was conducted on evening of 30th.

Mackay (D. H. Paddon). — Attendances at all services have increased considerably in last month. Two were received into fellowship by transfer. Ladies' Fellowship was commenced on Oct. 19 when eleven ladies were present. Mrs. Paddon was elected president, Mrs. Shaw, vice-pres. and asst. sec., Mrs. Turtin, sec., and Mrs. Wyeth treas. Ladies have planned special social evening to get toys for Mission children. Mid-week prayer meeting was commenced on 20th. Prayer meeting prior to gospel service is now a regular feature, with a song service at 7.15 p.m. During the month an easel and wall-desk for kinders were made by capable members for church. Church officers are still negotiating for suitable manse. Plans are under way for B.S. anniversary. Church was saddened when Mrs. Nielson's mother passed away in Ipswich. Mr. Warrick has returned to Boonah after a stay in Mackay. Recent visitors were Mr. and Mrs. A. Jones.

New South Wales

Beverly Hills. — B.S. anniversary was held on Oct. 23 and 30, and chapel was crowded on both occasions. Singing of the 180 scholars was conducted by John Morris, and was a testimonial to his training of children during past weeks. Average attendance at B.S. during last six months was 158, a result which has brought much joy to supt. and teaching staff. Miss Gwen Newbery, on account of her approaching marriage, has resigned as leader of J.C.E., and after mid-week prayer meeting on Nov. 2, a presentation was made to

her, and best wishes were expressed for her future happiness.

Inverell (E. F. G. McIlhagger, B.A.). — At service conducted at Delungra, Don Wells presided and Bill Dick sang solo. Stan Lowery presided at Inverell morning service on Oct. 23. Mr. and Mrs. D. Baxter have gone to Brisbane to live, and Lindsay Thomas has been transferred to Maitland. Newly formed choir is giving helpful assistance at gospel services. Mrs. McIlhagger has been appointed kinder supt. W. Bagley (Bexley) recently had fellowship with church.

Wagga. — Campaign with W. Jackel and John Toroni, Oct. 24-30, resulted in three decisions for Christ, and nine reconsecrations. Visit of R. Greenhalgh for week-end in October was appreciated. Successful second anniversary service was held at Wenwood Park B.S. on afternoon of Oct. 29. Sis. N. Mowsar led singing, and children were entertained with illustrated talk by L. Russo (Baptist) and talking instruments by J. Toroni and F. Tupper. Master Argus, Roger Willis, and the Gillespie brothers have been in hospital. Sis. Betty Kavanagh, F. Button and Mr. Pearson have also been ill. Sis. Maulsbury broke a bone in her foot. David Casperson is progressing after operation. Recent visitors have included Mr. and Mrs. Renison (Sydney) and Mr. and Mrs. A. Jackel (Wangaratta). Ladies' Aid held successful social afternoon on Nov. 8, when ladies of sister churches of Wagga were entertained. There were 80 ladies present and Padre Redman (Kapooka Army Camp) was guest speaker. B.S. hall looks very attractive with new curtains and fresh paint.

South Australia

Kilburn (H. G. Norris). — Senior C.Y.F. had attendance of 36 on Nov. 4, when at close of usual programme supper was served and presentation of key and books made to Dean Hamilton in recognition of years of consecrated leadership amongst Y.P. of church, it being the occasion of his 21st birthday. Miss D. Hackett spoke on behalf of Y.P. Mr. Gower made key and Mrs. L. Milne birthday cake. Youth work is in great heart, and Dean Hamilton has contributed greatly in this regard.

Fullarton (A. W. Morris). — C.M.F. held monthly meeting on Nov. 2. Dr. Alan Day gave an interesting and appreciated address. Church anniversary was held on 6th with splendid services throughout the day. A. W. Morris preached morning and evening. Temple Day offering is over £50. Over 150 were present at gospel service; G. Cox led the song service, choir rendered an anthem and Miss Bailey was soloiste. There was one decision and two reconsecrations. Following gospel meeting, a baptismal

service was held when four young men who recently made their decision were immersed. After church youth fellowship is held at manse every Sunday evening.

Mill End (L. E. Jones). — During absence of preacher in Vic. and N.Z., services have been addressed by M. Lewis, W. Beiler, T. Edwards, W. Philp and G. Whiting (Conf. Pres.). Guest speaker at youth fellowship on Oct. 30 was Ivan Hull. Combined B.S. and church picnic was held at McLaren Vale on Oct. 10, when a large number of friends attended.

Victoria

Balwyn (J. E. Brooke). — Annual fair resulted in £150 being raised for new school hall, and members rejoiced in the fellowship and fun received from their untiring efforts. P.B.P. club won humorous section of dramatic competition, and Ian Smith won 5-minute speech competition conducted by K.S.P. Society.

North Williamstown (H. E. R. Steele). — J.C.E. supt. (Mrs. Wallis) arranged antique and models exhibition and £9 was raised for Juniors' Temple Day offering appeal. Kitchen tea was tendered Val. Coxhead and Jim Hope on Nov. 5. B.S. tea was held on 6th and monthly film service was held in evening when Money for the Master was screened. After church fellowships for Y.P. have commenced in members' homes, the first one being held in home of Mr. and Mrs. R. Hope. Church sympathises with Mrs. Thompson in recent loss of her husband.

Ivanhoe (S. Davey). — Annual business meeting was held on Sept. 26, closing a year of further service during which the work, particularly amongst Y.P., showed pleasing increases. Officers for forthcoming year are: elders, A. Launder, F. Combridge and E. Anderson; deacons, H. Earl, B. Perkins, F. Nankivell, N. McCann and J. Rowe; treas., F. Chipperfield; sec., N. Fisher; B.S. supt., A. Reed; deaconesses, Sis. E. Anderson, A. Thurgood and J. Rowe. During Sept. and under leadership of F. Hunting (Ballarat), church held a Family Ashram at Mt. Evelyn, when 77 members and their children spent an inspiring week-end in worship, fellowship and study. It is planned to have another early in 1956. Construction of new hall is progressing well, and with stone fence erected round church property by men, is creating much local interest. During week-end of Oct. 15 and 16 a class of boys visited Dromana, attending Tootgarook church on the Sunday. That evening K. Heath (Tootgarook) spoke at Ivanhoe when two B.S. scholars made their decision. On 29th, ladies held fete when approx. £90 was raised for Building Fund. Church was glad to welcome back B. Perkins on his return from overseas.

Hartwell (H. J. Patterson, M.A.). — Recorded attendances of members for Oct. showed average communicants of just over 150. Visitors have included Mr. and Mrs. C. Orr (Tas.), Mrs. McCallum and Miss L. Ferguson (Sydney) and Mr. and Mrs. H. Kennedy, home on furlough as missionaries in Japan. Mr. Kennedy was formerly a scholar in B.S., and addressed church. Mrs. Kennedy gave illustrated talk to B.C. L. Seath is now chairman of Official Board of church. Soloists at evening services have been F. Lang, J. Milne and A. Bell. B.C. enjoyed musical afternoon at home of Mr. Mackey on Nov. 6. Plans are in hand for launching Junior Boys' Club early in new year. Mr. Everett is still far from well, and Mrs. Morrison has been indisposed. Church has released Mr. Patterson for two Sundays to conduct mission at Shepparton. Mr. Barham has received Home call, and church sympathises with E. Lewis in loss of his father.

Morwell-Newborough (D. H. Smith). — Recent activities have been series of Happy Hours, conducted in chapel by J. H. Cain. An average of 100 children attended daily, and some valuable contacts were made. Recognition is made of Camberwell's willingness to release their minister for the occasion, and his services for Happy Hours and special week night meetings were greatly appreciated. Films, The Bible on the Table and The Rim of the Wheel, were shown at the special meetings. Ladies' Guild birthday held on Oct. 26 was very successful function, attended by 60 ladies. Mrs. Kershaw was special speaker. Birthday cake was cut by Mrs. Blutcher, an original member. B.S. anniversary was held on Oct. 30. Children sang excellently under baton of L. Hurford. A. R. Lloyd was speaker and his talks held the attention of children. Two Y.P. have made their decision and one was baptised on Nov. 5. H. Preston (elder) is recovering from operation. Announcement that the Preston family will be transferring to N.S.W. very shortly comes to church as heavy blow. Progress on hall continues and encouragement was received by a one-day visit of party of 16 brethren from Melbourne under leadership of F. Haycraft, when valuable contribution was made. Thanks is expressed to Hartwell Men's Society in subsidising the visit by paying petrol costs. Reports from Newborough indicate steady progress and Y.W.L. maintains its good attendance.

Mt. Evelyn. — On Oct. 16, Mrs. Pratt returned to services after her recent operation. We trust her holiday in Queensland will be of much blessing and benefit to her. At anniversary morning service on 6th, W. Hibburt was speaker. He also dedicated a memorial in form of Scripture wall plaque to memory of the late

A. H. Pratt. Attendance of members and friends was particularly good. At evening service Mr. McPherson preached, J. Alderson was soloist and Miss Joyce McDougal was accompaniste. Messrs. McPherson, Thunrowgood and Lumsden continue with faithful preaching. Church notice board has been donated by T. O. Millard.

Ormond (F. E. Buckingham). — Since last report six young people have confessed Christ as Saviour. Four were baptised at evening service on Oct. 30. Visiting speakers have been enjoyed at morning services over past two months. New memorial chapel continues to draw visitors to all meetings. Soloists have rendered beautiful service at gospel meetings. Ladies have decided to fence off ground at side of chapel as playing centre. Sis. Blackwell, Johnston, Vautier, and Mr. Gifford are still on sick list; some are on improve, and hope to attend meetings shortly.

South Melbourne (S. Bannon). — Visiting K.S.P. from Nth. Richmond provided entertaining evening for our Kappas on Oct. 12. At gospel service on 16th film Faith of our Families was screened. K.S.P. and P.B.P. held scrub night in chapel on 19th in preparation for anniversary. B.S. anniversary was great success. Speakers were Messrs. Fisher and Haskell on 23rd, and Messrs. R. Brooker and S. Bannon on 30th. Average attendance for meetings was 180. B.S. scholars provided spirited singing, while speakers gave novel and interesting messages. B.S. Committee visited on 31st and gave great deal of help and encouragement to improve methods of teaching in B.S.

Springvale (G. A. Grainger). — On Oct. 29, a social evening was held by Phi Beta Pi Club and £4 was raised for Oakleigh Guest Home. Baptismal service was conducted on evening of Nov. 6, when two girls from Good Companions' Club were immersed.

Wangaratta (R. J. Anderson). — Anniversary services were an inspiration. Guest speaker was C. Jackel (York-st., Ballarat). Morning service on Nov. 6 was broadcast over 3NE and a married couple made their decision at close of meeting. At conclusion of meeting, a model and plans of new church building were presented. Mr. Patey (Melbourne), who was present, was thanked for his services in preparing model, etc. Two were immersed in evening. Anniversary banquet on 9th was time of happy fellowship. Ladies, led by Mrs. B. G. Benson, served 165 meals to members and visitors who attended from surrounding country districts. Offering for general and building fund amounted to £595. Mr. Jackel preached a fitting message as a climax to the celebrations. R. J. Anderson

thanked membership for their support during past year, especially prayer support. Mid-week meeting, pre-gospel meeting and C.E. prayer group were very helpful with their prayer sessions. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Anderson in loss of her brother.

West Preston (A. B. Withers). — B.S. picnic was held at Whittlesea Showgrounds on Nov. 1. Mr. Geyer (Gardiner) gave Home Mission address on 6th. K.S.P. held film night at a member's home on 4th. Y.P.S.C.E. meeting on 7th had "prayer" as its theme. Working bee was held on 12th when men painted portion of chapel. J.C.E. journeyed to Burwood Boys' Home on 12th for annual treat.

Open Forum

"ANY OTHER GOSPEL?"

The letters of E. F. G. McIlhagger (A.C., 20/9/55) and M. S. Collyer (A.C., 18/10/55) call for commendation. Both writers have said some pertinent things.

It seems strange that there are those within our brotherhood who are ready to accept the "faith alone approach." When analysed it will be found to have no clear doctrine of the Church and to be based largely on feeling. Very often the people who hold these views work outside the churches.

One of the great contributions our brotherhood has made is in connection with the question of salvation. The Campbells found themselves among people who majored on feeling and looked for an "experience" in new converts. This approach the Campbells repudiated, claiming that if we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ and repent and are baptised, we will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. This is in line with such passages as Acts 2: 38. They took a reasonable approach to salvation and, indeed, to all the great doctrines.

There is an urgent need for us as a brotherhood to re-examine the position that the pioneers of our movement held, with their reasonable and logical approach to every question, and their earnest desire for Christian unity. The question of unity is one of growing concern throughout the Christian world, and much thought is being given to it today. We ought to be right in this stream of thought, helping to direct to New Testament teachings and practices. This we will never do if we spend our time and energy in the backwash of emotionalism and jargonism.

It is to be hoped that all our members will do some solid thinking about our plea and its implications, and refrain from drifting back into the very things against which we originally protested.

On behalf of the South Australian Committee for the Promotion of Christian Union.—W. B. Burn, chairman; Ivan K. Hull, secretary. (Edited to conform to "Open Forum" limit of 300 words.)

Just Published —

"The Young Church in Action"

(A new translation of The Acts)

By J. B. Phillips
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The volume includes an Appendix which contains four of the Addresses (Peter on the Day of Pentecost, Stephen before his Martyrdom, Paul before Areopagus, Paul before Agrippa), reconstructed, enlarged and more broadly interpreted than the same addresses already translated in the main text. Five maps are also included.

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(Handel)

in

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Tuesday, November 29, 1955, at 8 p.m.

Frances Cowper (Soprano),
Dorothy Langford (Contralto)
Raymond Welsford (Tenor)
Eric Hancock (Bass)
Alan Ball (Trumpeter)
Lawrence Warner (Organist)
B. Winifred Lee (Planiste)

Tickets, 3/-

Proceeds for Brotherhood Departments

Churches of Christ Evangelical
Fellowship

RALLY

Saturday, November 19, 1955,

at 7.45 p.m.

Swanston-st. Church

Programme by Woolwich Bible College
Evangelistic Party.

All welcome

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

BIRTH

BAULCH (nee Waterman). — On Nov. 3, 1955, to Joan and John, Cavendish, Vic., a son—Ian William, Brother for Jennifer and Christine.

DEATH

KILLMIER (nee Scown). — On Oct. 9, 1955, at 1 George-st., Marles-ton, S.A., Louisa Emily, dearly loved wife of James Ernest Killmier, mother of Ray, Cliff (dec.), Linda, (Mrs. H. R. Overland), Reg, Lorna (Mrs. W. R. C. Bell) and Colin. In her 86th year.

IN MEMORIAM

BENN. — Treasured memories of our dear husband and father, A. R. Benn, who was called Home, Nov. 13, 1939.

—Ever remembered by his loving wife and family.

McGREGOR. — In loving memory of James Leslie McGregor, who passed away Nov. 15, 1954.

"We walk with tender memories,
The path that once he trod."

—Sadly missed by his loved ones,
Bumbunga and Lochiel, S.A.

MARRIAGE

GOLDING—LEWIS. — The marriage of Mary H. Golding to A. Frank Lewis, was solemnised at Mile End, S.A. Church of Christ by L. E. Jones on Oct. 8, 1955. Present address, 45 Bickford-st., Nth. Richmond, S.A.

SILVER WEDDING

JOWETT—BRADEN. — Mr. and Mrs. Jowett have much pleasure in announcing the Silver anniversary of their marriage celebrated at the St. Kilda Church of Christ on Nov. 15, 1930, by the late A. W. Connor. Present address, 192a Booran-rd., Caulfield, S.E.9.

FOR SALE

Organs, suitable for home or church, from £30. Perfect order. A. H. Fox, 493 Mt. Alexander-rd., Moonee Ponds. FU 4035.

Churches of Christ

BETHANY BOYS' HOME

Dover, Tasmania.

A Christ-like Ministry

Remember Home in Prayer and Gifts.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

P. C. Woolford (preacher, Norwood church), 42 Second-ave., St. Peters, S.A. MF 2329.

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National Christian Adult Convention

under the auspices of the Mission to the Nation

OPEN TO ALL WHO ARE INTERESTED

To be held at the Exhibition Building, Melbourne,
January 8 to 15, 1956

Theme for the week: "FAITH AT WORK"

Outstanding speakers from Australia and Overseas

Bible Studies, Tutorials, Recreation, Public Meetings every night

Cost for Delegates with full facilities of the Convention,
Study Literature, etc.

1. Full time with accommodation. (Night dinner at Exhibition) £8/8/-
2. Full time NO accommodation. (Night dinner at Exhibition) £3/3/-
3. Full time with NO accommodation and NO night dinner £1/-/-

For Registration Forms and further particulars contact the Convention Headquarters at

The Mission to the Nation Office,
388 Little Collins-st.,
Melbourne. Phone: Central 1235.

REGISTER EARLY, BEFORE NOVEMBER 30, IF POSSIBLE

IT'S UP TO YOU!



**SHE
DIDN'T
SAVE**

When summer comes this year,
will you be gazing wistfully out
the window because you can't
afford a holiday?

OR



**SHE
DID**

Will you be having the time
of your life at the sea-side, far
from your desk, and with plenty
of money in your State Savings
Bank account because you saved
when the weather was cold?

Decide now—for that summer holiday, save something
every week and deposit it regularly in

The
State Savings Bank
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"It Pays to Save"

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Prop., J. and M. Paske
Inner Spring Beds — Family Rooms
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4 berth Caravan in Caravan Park bet. Seaford and Frankston, all conv., I.S. mattresses, etc., close beach, trains, buses and shops. Can be used as temporary home. £350. R. Perl, 129 Lily-st., Bendigo. Phone Bendigo 2072.

Austin A/30. — Current model, 5,000 miles, imported 4-door sedan, one owner, immaculate condition. Best offer. XU 1006.

Coming Events

PARKDALE HOMECOMING SERVICES. Nov. 27. Speakers: 11 a.m., C. G. Taylor, B.A.; 7 p.m., C. M. Dunse.

MIDDLE PARK GOLDEN JUBILEE AND HOMECOMING. Nov. 27. Guest speaker for day, F. C. Hunting (Bal-larat). 3 p.m., P.S.A. Special items by Hartwell Youth Choir under leadership of A. Mitchell. Past members and friends warmly welcomed. Hospitality provided.

GARDEN FETE

Prahran Manse

26 Mayfield-st., E. St. Kilda
Saturday, November 19, 1955

Official opening at 3 p.m., by Mrs. Lloyd, President Women's Conference. Stalls and gifts to suit all. Come and help reduce debt on manse. R. Retchford, pres. R. Blackmore, sec.

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Accommodation now available at "Arklow" Guest House, Taradale, Vic. Clean beds, good table, one family room, Christmas, children welcome. —Mrs. Syd. Martin.

WANTED TO RENT

House or flat, south of river, married couple, no children. Reply D.J., c/o Australian Christian.

One or two rooms and kitchen required by young married couple, in eastern or southern suburbs. Reply to Miss M. Reiter K2. Raleigh-st., Prahran.

WANTED

Temporary home for two girls, 3½ and 2 years. Apply Social Service Dept., 241 Flinders-lane. MU 2104.

TO LET

Dromana. — Furnished holiday cottage, 5 mins. from beach, accom. 6. Not available Christmas, New Year. Apply Social Service Dept., 241 Flinders-lane, Melb. MU 2104.

Dromana. — Furnished house, accom. 9, 4 mins. off beach and shops, H.W.S., mod. clean. Available from Nov. 19 to Dec. 10, then from Feb. 4 onwards. Particulars: phone FW 1802.

House. — Furnished, Box Hill. Apply Social Service Dept., 241 Flinders-lane. MU 2104.

Large furn. B.S.R. and kitchen, accom. 2 adults and child. Short or long periods. "Clovelly," 55 Orlando-st., Hampton.

Furnished house, Glen Iris, comf. furn. 5-room villa, avail. for 2 months from Dec. 5, at £6/6/- per week. J. A. Carter, F.R.E.I., 166 Toorak-rd., South Yarra (opp. station). BJ 1296.

Federal College of the Bible GRADUATION AND ORDINATION SERVICE

Friday, November 25

Lygon-st. chapel at 8 p.m.

Address: S. Neighbour, B.A.
Presentation of Diplomas

Everyone welcome. Make this meeting a memorable occasion as workers go out to service.

RINGWOOD CHURCH Bedford-rd.

OPENING AND DEDICATION OF NEW CHAPEL

Sunday, December 4, 1955

3 p.m., Opening Ceremonies
B. F. Huntsman (Conf. Pres.)
3.15 p.m. Dedicatory Service
Preacher: E. L. Williams, M.A.
Soloist: Samuel Jose
Representative greetings

5 p.m., Fellowship Tea
7 p.m., Gospel Service
Preacher: J. E. Brooke
Soloiste: Mrs. C. G. Taylor
A cordial welcome to all

To Churches of Christ members. We have opened a branch at Frankston, cnr. Argyle-st. and Frome-ave. Tel., Fkston. 1420, in charge of Mr. J. Allison who has been with us since we first began business. Branches also at Syndal, opp. station, UY 7513, L. A. Glasson, manager. Buyers waiting for homes in all suburbs.

R. Rowan, F.I.I.A., Auctioneer, Foundation member Real Estate Agents' Association of Vic., 230 Collins-st., Melbourne. Cent. 2660 and 4741. Night, WL 4174, FM 3925, JW 5306.

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