

Murray

THE AUSTRALIAN

Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

NORMAN A. MANN, of Hornsey Church of Christ, London, writes of
"a seven-fold Pentecost" in surveying

THE MIRACLE OF WEMBLEY

The week of Dr. Billy Graham's 1955 London Campaign at Wembley was one of the coldest and wettest that London has ever experienced during May. It rained every day of the week, and one night there was a snowstorm! Only a comparatively small part of Wembley Stadium is under cover, and it is hard to imagine a more uncomfortable experience than sitting on concrete steps for two hours, being soaked by the pouring rain, or chilled by the biting wind. These were the circumstances under which nearly all the meetings were held, and yet the average attendance exceeded 50,000 each night, with 90,000 at the final service. And at every service some 3,000 people responded to the invitation and made their way down from the stands to stand on the sodden turf to indicate their desire to follow their Lord.

Those who have heard the preaching of Billy Graham will know how singularly unemotional is his presentation of the gospel. Time and again he emphasises, perhaps even tends to over-emphasise, that the appeal of Christ is not primarily to the mind or to the emotions, but to the will. Any lingering doubts as to whether mass emotionalism is at the root of Billy Graham's ministry must surely

be dispelled by the thought of the wind and rain sweeping across the half-filled expanse of Wembley Stadium, the difficulty of congregational

singing under such conditions, the preacher to most of the congregation an almost indistinguishable figure in the distance. What an impossible way to, set about rousing the emotions! And, one might think, what unlikely circumstances in which to preach the gospel with the power to change the lives of men and women!

Yet there is not the slightest doubt but that through the Wembley Crusade the Holy Spirit has come with transforming power into the lives of many thousands of people. There may well be some whose professed decision had little or no meaning, and who will do nothing to follow it up. There may well be others who, after a short time, will fail to live up to their initial profession of faith. Our Lord himself warned that this would happen whenever the gospel was preached.

But we may rejoice because there is abundant evidence that there are many who, having truly given their lives to Jesus Christ, have been born again, and are showing the fruit of the Spirit in lives which have been changed. It is a thrilling experience to live and work in London at the present time, and to meet day by day those in whom this miracle of grace has been worked. We have never known anything like this before, and we give God the glory



Dr. Billy Graham

REGISTERED AT THE G.P.O. MELBOURNE FOR TRANSMISSION BY POST AS A NEWSPAPER

for the wonders which he has performed in our midst.

Those who shared in the work of the Crusade as Counsellors or Advisers have, of course, the fullest knowledge of the way in which lives have been changed by the power of the gospel. Although it was not possible for me to serve in this way, and my experience of the effects of the Crusade is therefore more limited, I am nevertheless able to write from personal experience, as must surely many other Christians in London, of some of the triumphs of grace which have been wrought.

Triumphs of Grace

A young man working in an office, who was urged to go along to Wembley by a colleague, raised many questions and arguments against the Christian revelation, and finally went to Wembley in an admittedly cynical frame of mind. At Wembley, every one of his questions was answered. He was convicted by the Holy Spirit, and made his lone way from the very top of the stands to declare his decision for Christ.

A young girl, a Bible School teacher for several years, discovered at Wembley that she had never fully committed herself to Jesus Christ. She was one of the many who went forward there, and her life is now a testimony to the Spirit working within her.

In the hospitals, in which I work, there is abundant evidence among patients and staff of the working of the Holy Spirit since the Wembley Crusade—of some who have answered the call of Christ, and others who are earnestly seeking peace with God since their spiritual needs have been revealed to them.

So one might continue, and when the full story of Wembley is told, we shall learn of at least one man, whose name is famous throughout the world, who, with his wife, stood on the turf in the pouring rain in testimony to his new-found faith in Jesus Christ.

Our Own Position

We, who are members of Churches of Christ, find justification for our existence as a separate movement only in the fact that we bear a distinctive witness which we believe is a necessary contribution to the cause of Christian unity, based upon New Testament Christianity. Some earnest disciples have been anxious regarding the Billy Graham campaigns, because participation in them might cause us to abandon a position which we have adopted, only because we conceive it as the Lord's will. In particular, Billy Graham, in his appeal for decisions, never mentions the New Testament teaching on baptism, which to us appears so abundantly clear. We ought, therefore, to face this question fairly.

An overwhelming fact is that through

these Crusades the Holy Spirit has worked mightily, and we dare not resist his work, for we shall be found to be fighting against God. I have no doubt whatever that the fruit of the Wembley Crusade is God's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes. We can claim no monopoly of the Holy Spirit, but must rejoice that he works in so many wondrous ways.

The evidence of my own experience is that when converts from the Crusade are put in touch with our churches, we have a glorious opportunity of presenting our witness by showing from the pages of the New Testament the steps required for the completion of the new birth. There is surely upon us no responsibility for those who seek to grow in the Christian life in fellowship with other communions. Rather, let us rejoice that one of the fruits of this Crusade is the willingness of the different denominations, both Anglican and Nonconformists, to unite so unreservedly in this great work of evangelism, and let us work to the end that the unity thus created may find ever increasing expression and reality.

Place of Preaching and Prayer

I must attempt finally to answer the question as to how and why this work of the Holy Spirit came about. There are two factors in this—preaching and prayer.

Firstly, the preaching. God has richly blessed Billy Graham with gifts which enable him to present the gospel with a clarity which, I believe, can have been matched by few evangelists of any generation. Nobody who listens to Billy Graham can have any misunderstandings whatever concerning the message which he seeks to proclaim, the personal nature of God's call to men, or of the nature of the response for which God asks. Billy Graham's preaching is founded upon the Bible itself; perhaps his most repeated expression is "The Bible says," and his preaching has proved that the words of the Bible still speak a challenging message to the souls of men.

Mention must also be made of Billy Graham's sense of conviction regarding his message, and his amazing spirit of humility. It is a striking testimony to the spirit of the man himself that so many people, who as yet are unmoved by the claims of Jesus Christ, are impressed with the obvious sincerity and conviction of Billy Graham. There can surely be few men who have become famous, and yet have remained completely unmoved by the honor in which they are held.

We have become accustomed to seeing Billy Graham's name and photograph on posters and handbills as a means of publicity for the Cru-

sades which he conducts. At the meetings themselves, however, every effort is made to help the congregation to forget the man Billy Graham, and to think only of the Saviour whom he proclaims.

The second factor in the Crusade is prayer. Billy Graham is always the first to emphasise that the success of the Crusades depends, not upon the work done by him and by his team, but upon the work of the many thousands of Christian people all over the world who engage in prayer for the Crusades. One feels that it must be true that never in the history of the Christian Church has there been such prolonged and intensive prayer by so many Christians for the preaching of the gospel in one place. How often, since the example set by our Lord, have his followers spent all night in prayer? And have Christians of so many different denominations ever shown such unity in prayer for the preaching of the gospel as now?

This surely is the secret of the mighty work which God has wrought in our midst. Not just the faithful preaching of the Word by a gifted man of God, although we give thanks to God that he has raised up such a man for this hour, but a vast multitude of Christ's people throughout the world showing that the prayers of his people are the means whereby the Holy Spirit can do his mighty work and cause a seven-fold Pentecost to take place in our midst.

We must then give ourselves constantly unto prayer, not alone for the continued preaching of the gospel, but for those who have responded to the call of our Lord, that they may grow in the things of the Spirit; and for the Christian Church, that she may be fitted to nurture the souls given into her care.



Charles L. Johnston, of the church at Unley, S.A., and Treasurer of the S.A. Conference Executive, left England on the Orion on Nov. 15, and is due in Adelaide on Dec. 14. Whilst in England he visited churches in London (Hornsey and Wandsworth-rd.), Bulwell (near Nottingham) and Bournemouth (where he was entertained by G. J. Hammond, editor of the British churches' weekly, the Christian Advocate). Mr. Johnston also visited the church at Falkirk in Scotland. With Sir Phillip and Lady Messent (also of Unley), he attended the Toronto Convention, after also visiting Montreal, New York, Washington, Buffalo, Niagara Falls and Cleveland. In Europe, he visited Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, and also met Albert Anderson whilst they were both in London.

INDIA - and MISSIONARIES

How much time is left for Christian missions in India? How much longer will Western missionaries be allowed to enter the country and to do their work unhindered? These and similar questions have probed the Western Christian conscience ever since India won her independence. Mission societies have speeded up their plans for an indigenous Indian Church. Missionaries have trained workers, and anxiously stood aside while these were tested with new responsibilities. While there is still time it is imperative that a strong Indian leadership be built up, encouraged and strengthened by the friendship and experience of missionaries prepared to work alongside and under them in their common Christian task.

LOCAL TACTICS

Some observers believe that little time is left. Certainly, there have been some disturbing political speeches made in India, some of them from men closely concerned with the Government. There have been instances of local repressive tactics, such as our British missionaries are experiencing in their work in Surguja and Bhandaria. In the British Churches of Christ Missionary Committee's 1955 report it is said, "The work in India is being carried on in increasingly difficult circumstances. In Madhya Pradesh (Central Provinces), where our Surguja work is situated, anti-missionary feeling is pronounced. . . . We had hoped that by this time the false charges made against Jack Christie and three Indian Christians would have been completely cleared, but after many delays in giving judgment on these cases, which have been running since 1952, it was a shock to hear that the verdict had gone against the accused . . . The result of the appeal is not known yet. Other India missions, particularly in Madhya Pradesh province, are watching the outcome with concern, as they feel that these are test cases, and that the verdicts are a blow against Christian missions in general."

Latest evidence of this policy comes in the news that Keith Skillicorn, of Brighton, Vic., our Australian representative on this British mission, has been arrested with 13 Indian Christians, and was to face the court on Nov. 15 on such charges as "inciting to violence and bloodshed." As we wait for further news, we are sure that the Australian brotherhood will remember especially in prayer Mr. and Mrs. Skillicorn and their young family, their Indian fellow-workers, and other missionaries in this further time of testing.

GOVERNMENT POLICY

How do such local repressive acts accord with the comprehensive policy of the Indian Government as such?

A statement last November from a Government department in Delhi caused much anxiety when it announced that all British Commonwealth missionaries would henceforth need to apply for an entry visa, and that those going on furlough would need a "no objection to return" certificate to ensure that their application would be granted. These "no objection" certificates would depend on the missionary having spent five years continuously in India, without coming to the adverse notice of the Government. This declaration by the Government was later withdrawn.

However, new regulations have now been announced, and in order to understand their significance we need to remember that Christians in India total only eight millions in a population of 360 millions, and that since the war, the situation has been complicated by the arrival in India of what Cecil Northcott calls "legions of free-lance missionaries, carrying many and variegated names." Moreover, the strong Hindu Movement has within it those working to replace the present secular State by a Hindu State. In that situation, Northcott shows, missions seem to the Indian politician "an extraneous excursion, with a central loyalty outside India, with people and finances provided for outside India." Even so, despite the existence for some years of regulations governing the entry of non-Commonwealth missionaries, nearly 90 per cent. of the applications have been granted. Latest regulations on Commonwealth missionaries require a "special endorsement" in their passports from the nearest Indian Diplomatic Mission, but assure that these "will be granted automatically . . . provided the applicant is coming to India to replace another missionary, or as an addition to an existing mission post, or is returning to his own post after leave. Applications from missionaries who wish to come to a new mission post will be referred to the Government of India, and each application will be considered on its merits."

Time will show the spirit in which these regulations will be interpreted, but meanwhile the door is not closed, and our opportunity remains. Let us see to it, that with prayers and giving we do all we can to help our missionaries build a strong Indian Church for the testing days ahead.

E. F. G. McILHAGGER, minister, Inverell, N.S.W., delivered this Jubilee sermon on

THE ENEMY OF US ALL

That farmer of whom Jesus spoke, who sowed his field with grain, must have gone to his rest with a sense of satisfaction. The soil had been well prepared, the seed graded and planted. All he had to do was to wait for the harvest. But while he slept somebody scattered seeds of weeds through the field. The time came when the crop was ready to be harvested. The workmen who were sent out to gather the grain discovered a tangled mass of wheat and weeds. They hurried back to the homestead and reported to their master. Recalling this particular field, and remembering the care he had taken in sowing, the farmer could think of but one conclusion, which he expressed in the words, "An enemy has done this!" This man had every right to expect a good crop, an expectation which might have been realised had it not been that some enemy had spoiled his work.

As we survey life and take into consideration what God and many men have done over the years to make this world what it ought to be, and then consider what the world really is, one conclusion is forced upon us, which we may express in the words of this farmer — "An enemy has done this!"

A Destructive Worker

It is reasonable to suppose that the Creator of this universe had something noble in mind when he thought out creation. The Bible tells us that when he surveyed his handiwork, God saw that it was good. In this congenial environment, our first parents lived happily, but not ever afterwards. And there came a day when God once again looked out on creation, and this time things were different—grimly so. "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every imagination of their thoughts was only evil continually . . . and it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart." We may imagine God saying as he surveyed the sorry sight, "An enemy has done this."

As we look at the wrecks of our modern hopes—the result of two world wars in one generation fought to end war—peace pacts signed and broken, sincere people in every land working and frequently suffering for the cause of world peace, and, in spite of all their efforts, the world

still on tenterhooks—we are forced to sum it up in the words, "An enemy has done this."

And what of the parents who have cherished high hopes for a son or a daughter, and have seen those hopes frustrated by the folly of the child? It is not sufficient to say that wrong training or sheer perversity of the human being is responsible. Someone has worked on either the parents or the child, or both. A deeper understanding of life makes us say, "An enemy has done this."

Or, again, what would we say of this man and his wife? There was a day when they went from the church building, having each made a vow before God in all sincerity to be faithful to each other till death should separate them. But now, after twenty years, they are seeking a dissolution of their marriage through the divorce court. What would we say? Well, whatever we said, it would not be adequate, unless it were expressed in those tragic words, "An enemy has done this."

The Bible has a lot to say about this enemy. Although it is primarily a book about God and his dealings with man, it also tells us a good deal about the one from whom springs all the sorrow and shame that make havoc of life's loveliness. In the Scriptures this evil being is sometimes called "the adversary," sometimes "Satan," and sometimes the "Devil." You see, the Bible accounts for the weeds among the wheat, and as it does so it has in mind one who has personality.

There are three things to remember about this enemy of us all. First of all

He is Powerful

In its own picturesque way the Bible in one passage refers to him as a "roaring lion" going all over the world, "seeking whom he may devour." Don't make any mistake. The devil is powerful. It is dangerous to trifle with the things which issue from his ungodly nature. Time and again we have seen strong men falling victim to his wiles because they underestimated his power. You have only to consider what men are willing to surrender at his dictates to realise his power. The story of Esau and the mess of pottage is repeated in every generation. Brilliant men have forfeited the esteem of their friends and their own self-esteem—priceless treasures—in order to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season.

I met a man once who had come out from Europe as a member of a concert party. He began to tamper with the things of the devil. He thought at first that he could hold our common enemy at arm's length. He began by fraternising with him, he ended by following him. This man was once a celebrated musician, enjoying the plaudits of the concert hall. He was now one of life's derelicts, bowing low beneath the stinging scorn of a society that once applauded his artistry. It surely was a mighty power that made this man give away so much for so little.

In the second place,

He is Cunning

this enemy of ours. One of the first comments made about the devil is to be found in Genesis 3: 1. "Now the serpent was cunning, more cunning than any creature." Herein lies the secret of a good deal of his power. He has such a subtle way with him that he has us in his grasp before we realise that we are dealing with an enemy. Indeed, more often than not, he presents himself in the attractive guise of a friend. The apostle Paul in one passage describes him as an angel of light. Too frequently we visualise the arch-enemy of man somewhat like the hideous being pictured in medieval art. But experience teaches us that our first acquaintanceship with him is quite congenial. It is always easy to accept his services, and when he bids us eat, drink and be merry, he does so with the soft tones of a loving friend. It is only later on, when he has gripped us in his clutch, that his tones take on their real sound of a sneer and a snarl. Every seasoned sinner will agree with you that any indulgence of Satan's wares is at first sweet, at last bitter to the taste. When first we deal with the children of his brain they make pleasant company, but at last they bite like serpents and sting like adders. The enemy of us all is cunning.

He is cunning and subtle in the way in which he sometimes turns our attention to lesser enemies while he is free to work his deadly will. Just over ten years ago the people of Britain, America, Russia, and France were engaged in a gigantic struggle against what was personified as the "enemy." By their combined efforts was the power of this "enemy" weakened and finally destroyed. But mankind's common enemy grew stronger. While Berlin, Coventry,

Stalingrad and Hiroshima were crumbling under forceful blows directed by the ingenuity of men, he was building his citadels in the hearts of people everywhere. He was taking possession of their homes. He was poisoning their culture and their religion, and breaking down their institutions. He began to occupy areas of life that were once closed to him. Today we can almost hear his hollow, maniacal laughter as he sees the world, aligning itself into rival camps for another struggle which could conceivably leave him the sole possessor of the field.

You see, our real enemy is not the person on the other side of a national or even racial barrier, or across the social or political barrier that sometimes divides us. Our real enemy is man's common foe, who can do immeasurably more harm than any H-bomb, for he is able to shatter not only the hopes of this present life

but also the hopes of the life to come . . . In a word, he can destroy our souls.

But I must say a more cheerful word as I come to a close. It is this.

He can be Effectively Dealt With

—so effectively, that as the Bible says, he will "flee" from us. When Paul, the apostle of Jesus Christ, made his plea before King Agrippa he recalled the circumstances of his conversion. He told the king of the charge that the Lord had given him, a charge, the faithful keeping of which had been the rule of his whole life. On that day, years before, this great missionary had been given his commission by God, the substance of which he now recounts to his royal audience, and which we may read for ourselves in Acts 26: 16-18. The risen

Lord had sent Paul to the Gentiles, "to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God." Wherever this little Jew went he was able to help people deal effectively with this enemy of us all, for he was preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ.

The world of men has an enemy who is common to us all. Let us never underestimate his power. Let us always be careful to recognise him in whatever guise he comes to us. But having done that, and before we can effectively resist him, let us go to the source of all good—the Lord Jesus Christ, for there is "none other name" that is given among men, "whereby we must be saved." The sooner men and women the world over do that, the sooner will come the day when the enemy of us all will be cast into the bottomless pit, "prepared for the devil and his angels."



(Notes supplied by A. Anderson, Sec. F.M. Board.)

Things Seen in India

Some changes were noted in India when contrasting with previous visits.

BOUNTFUL RAINFALL.

The rains were more or less general throughout India, though some sections suffered severe flooding. The night prior to our leaving Bombay for Australia, three and a half inches of rain fell, and in some parts of the Western Ghats more than an average of an inch per day has fallen since the beginning of the year. Enormous rainfalls are not unusual in these areas.

In our own districts, sufficient rains had fallen to create hope in the hearts of the farmers that more would fall when growing crops required additional water. It was an unusual sight to notice that those who planted early were in danger of losing some of their plantings, for many of their crops were turning yellow because of the unusual quantity of water lying about. Others who delayed planting had, perforce, to wait till the ground dried out before they were able to commence sowing.

Wells had abundant supplies of water. Our own wells were so full that the electric pumps had to be

brought into operation to keep the water in hand so that the electrical system would not become submerged and cause considerable damage.

MISSIONARY PERSONNEL.

There were fewer missionaries on the Field than at any time over a considerable number of years. An unusual number of workers are home on furlough; the system of staggering furloughs and the earlier return (by a few months) of Dr. and Mrs. Michael accounted for this situation. It was most unusual to see only two Australian couples at work, and no Australian doctor at Dhond. The fine group of lady workers has helped considerably during this period.

During the next few months, five workers will have returned: Mr. and Mrs. Heard (November), Mr. and Mrs. Dixon and Miss Batterham (February), which will help the situation greatly. Mr. and Mrs. Colin Thomas will return to Australia at the end of the year, and Dr. Michael and family meanwhile have settled in Western Australia.

The return of the Thomas and Michael families will leave gaps which will be hard to fill, and no early planning will be made for their return to India.

NEW COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

Indianisation of our work commenced two years ago, when the

principle was adopted at the annual meetings in 1953. During the past two years, the Indian Conference (which is composed of all Churches of Christ in the part of Western India where we have labored for fifty years) were responsible for electing 50% (four members) of the Committee of Management, and the missionaries elected the remaining 50%. To these eight members, a ninth member was added—the treasurer—who was appointed by the Home Board.

At the last Annual Meetings, the second step in Indianisation was undertaken. During the next four years the Indian Conference are empowered to elect six members of the C.O.M., the missionaries two, whilst the remaining one (treasurer) is appointed by the Board. The elections resulted as follows: Conference, H. Waghmodi, chairman; Dr. S. S. Patil, vice-chairman; S. Jadhev, J. Bairagi, B. Kolhatkar and K. Alhart. Mission: B. V. Coventry, secretary; C. V. Thomas. Board: Miss E. D. Vawser, treasurer.

It will be seen that our Indian brethren have been given great responsibilities. The next few years will be one of testing, and even difficulties for them. We should remember them daily in prayer.

FINAL JUBILEE GATHERINGS.

After the first day of historic remembrance and rejoicing, the intervening days were taken up with the Annual Meetings. The final Jubilee meetings were held on Sunday with the holding of three services. The morning meeting particularly was a memorable one, with representatives from all churches. The guest speaker challenged all with the use of Heb.

12: 2, "Looking unto Jesus—the File Leader and Vindicator of our Faith." A well attended "love feast" was held after the morning service, when a large body gathered around the historic tree which marked the beginnings of our work fifty years ago. On the Saturday evening a Jubilee Pageant was held in the assembly room of the school. So vast were the numbers wanting to attend, that scores had to stand outside.

Those responsible for the pageant are to be commended for the research and the preparatory work done. With period costume, and not without humor, earlier missionaries and workers were depicted, and the link with Australia was maintained by featuring the late G. T. Walden, former secretary of the F.M. Board, and the bringing to the platform of the holder of that office. It was fitting that Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Coventry were brought

into the final scene, since their connection with the Indian work goes back to the infancy of the work.

A fine souvenir booklet has been prepared on the Field, giving full information of events covering the period, and contains some good pictorial items. We are hoping these will have a ready sale among the brotherhood. Supplies will be to hand within a few weeks, and the approximate price is 2/6 posted.

THE MINISTRIES OF OUR

WOMEN

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

Interstate News

QUEENSLAND.

Mrs. Lade, of the Sunnybank Fellowship, led the devotions at the November meeting of the Auxiliary. Mrs. C. R. Burdeu, President of Women's Conference, presided over the business session.

Mrs. Burdeu reported on the Half-Yearly Conference at Toowoomba. The Women's Session was presided over by the President, and Mrs. Andrews presented the H.M. news for Mrs. Potter; Mrs. Wiltshire gave an outline of Overseas Missions, Young Women's Fellowships, and Youth; Mrs. Machin on the Aged Christians' Home; Mrs. H. McLane on the Obituary Work and W.C.T.U.; the Toowoomba sisters gave a greeting to the Conference, and a great time of fellowship was enjoyed by about 80 women.

The President has also visited the northern churches and brought back the greetings from our northern sisters.

Prayer Meeting Superintendent, Mrs. Machin, reported increase in attendance at monthly meetings. Aborigine work done by the Queensland sisters is excellent. The Supt. has received 55 parcels, containing well over 1,000 articles, 600 being new. In all, five boxes have been packed ready to go as soon as shipping space is available. 36 children have been adopted through our Women's Fellowships. Hospital Work at the Rosemount Hospital is under the leadership of Mrs. Crisp, who has arranged for a group of women to sing Christmas carols and distribute Christmas parcels in December. Mrs. Tavenor will be responsible for distribution of goods to the South Brisbane Hospital. Mrs. Parker, Hospital Chaplaincy Supt., will visit the General Hospital, and also reminds the sisters to let her know of any in their Fellowships, especially in our country centres, who

are sick, so that she can write or visit same. At the Aged Christians' Home on Nov. 19, gifts from each Fellowship were presented to the Matron.

Mrs. Burdeu spoke on the British and Foreign Bible Society Centenary Rally, and said it was significant to note that, although it had grown, the B.W.A. is still a small group of faithful women doing their utmost to help send forth the Word of God. She urged all sisters to pray for this great work.

Mrs. L. R. Lade spoke on the work of the World Day of Prayer Committee and stated that Australia would be responsible for the worldwide programme in 1958. We are honored that Mrs. Lade has been chosen to represent Queensland in the setting up of this programme. Mrs. Wiltshire asked the Fellowships to keep in mind the needs of youth, and appealed to the Fellowships, as Youth Supt., to make a donation to the Crockery Fund for our Caloundra Centre.

£10 has been given to the appeal for the Y.W.C.A. Hostel, which will be built for young people from country areas, who come to Brisbane for study or positions. Mrs. Burdeu closed the meeting with prayer.—B. Wiltshire, sec.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

The monthly meeting of the N.S.W. Women's Conference was held in the City Temple on Friday, Nov. 4, at 11 a.m. The President, Mrs. Wylie, was in the chair. There were 75 present.

Mrs. E. W. Roffey (Lane Cove) led the devotions. Mrs. Roffey referred us to the latter part of the conversation of Jesus with the woman of Samaria, as recorded in John 4: 19-23, 25, 26, showing how God is made known to us. Mrs. Verco sang, "Loved with Everlasting Love." Mrs. Wakeley led in intercessory prayer for those who are sick.

R. Greenhalgh, secretary H.M. Committee, addressed the meeting. Taking the text Isaiah 54: 2, we were challenged to "Attempt great things for God, Expect great things from God." H.M. theme for year, "Operation—Expansion."

Three stakes needed to be strengthened.

1. **Information Stake:** Information leads to inspiration.

2. **Manpower Stake:** Full-time ministers are short. There is need for the men of the churches to fit and train themselves for preaching the gospel.

3. **Financial Stake:** We must have the vision and the determination, because there is much to be done.

We were reminded of the Annual Offering, and first of all urged to pray, then talk about it, for information led to inspiration, and will bear fruit; then pray about our own giving.

The meeting closed with prayer and the benediction.—E. Hayward.

VICTORIA—TASMANIA.

Mrs. Lloyd, President, chaired Council meeting on Nov. 4, when 96 were present. Following the invocation, Mrs. W. Newham (Surrey Hills) led the devotional session with thoughts from 1 Cor. 3: 9-17, high-lighting the thought of working together in God's service.

Mrs. R. W. Saunders, wife of the preacher at Hamilton, brought a Home Mission talk, outlining the work being done in Hamilton, Portland and Warrnambcol.

A recommendation from Executive was received that the women be responsible for a Garden Party at the College, to be held on March 24, 1956.

Mrs. Nance-Kivell, of the Temperance Committee, stressed the need for all to familiarise themselves with the set-up for the coming referendum. Literature is available from this committee.

Several country groups have been visited—Bendigo, Mildura and Shepparton, who sent greetings.

All were reminded that Christmas gifts for the Hospital Visitation committee can be brought to the December meeting.—B. L. Williams, sec.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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

Country Churches, Ontario

In Mapleton, I really felt myself away from the noise and rush of the city. The new tempo was obvious immediately. The meeting was planned to begin at 8:30; it was well on to 9 o'clock before it got under way. Cows had to be milked, and other farming chores seen to first. It was pleasant to chat outside in the cool of the evening, to wait as folk arrived. The church here, now 105 years old, is the only one in the area, and once was very strong. The folk at whose farm-house I spent the night were able to tell me something of those crowded earlier days. I visited some other members for lunch the next day. Their newly-built home was a surprise in this country area, fitted with every modern device, including a huge deep-freeze unit in the basement, stacked high with food.

In mid-afternoon, I set off with Stanley Stainton, the Mapleton minister, to drive to the village of Poplar Hill, where I was expected that evening. A heavy thunderstorm spoilt our visit to the city of London, Ont., on the way. I should imagine that this "City of Trees," as it is called, would be very attractive in the sunlight, and the fact that its streets bore the names of streets in the original London was an added fascination. At Poplar Hill, the minister, Herman Hirtle, took charge of me, and there was a fine attendance at the meeting, which was also conducted efficiently by young people. On the next day, the good folk with whom I had lunch took time off to drive me the hundred miles to my next stopping-place, when they could so easily have just driven me about ten miles to the bus depot, and left me to take public transport; this was typical of that kindness which so often refreshed me—along the way.

On the Sunday I had three services with the folk at Hillsburgh and Grand Valley. The Grand Valley service was in the afternoon, and the forty people present represented ninety-nine per cent. of their membership! At night, I addressed a united open-air service from the back of an open truck. There was a sudden change of temperature, from fierce heat to biting cold—those who conducted the service with me provided a background of chattering teeth while I spoke. Our listeners were snug in the cars, which ringed the park where the service was held!

Toronto Interlude

Early the next morning I was driven into Toronto, where I spent several happy days in the Oliver McCully home. Mr. McCully is General Secretary of our Canadian work, and was at the Melbourne Convention. Mrs. McCully was hospitality organiser for overseas visitors to the Toronto Convention, and was in the last hectic throes of arrangements. But the family and I had some happy times together before Mr. McCully drove me out into the country once more on the Wednesday afternoon.

The heat had given way to yet more rumbling thunder and driving rain as we made our way to the Disciples' Conference Ground, the recently developed camp site of the Ontario churches, on the northern shore of Lake Erie. A Family Camp was in session when we arrived. Several families of youth workers in our United States churches were sharing a few days' meditation and fellowship in this delightful spot before moving on to the Toronto Convention. Attractively built log-cabins surrounded a central building, where study sessions and meals were held. I enjoyed the fellowship of the evening meal with them. Just before I was due to be on my way to Welland for the evening meeting, the leader of the camp received a phone call. After talking for a few minutes, he turned to me and said, "Here is someone you know." He handed me the phone, and I just had time to say "Hullo," and hear a welcome Australian accent at the other end before the call expired. It was from L. A. Trezise, Victorian Youth Leader, who was due at the camp the next morning. I wished I could have stayed to meet him—wished it all the more a little later when I was sitting in a powerful car, being driven at disturbingly high speed towards Welland. But we arrived intact, just a little late, to find about sixty representatives of the two churches at Welland and Winger waiting anxiously for my arrival.

Niagara Country

The meeting was under the auspices of the Women's Fellowship—but they had prevailed upon a man to lead it! Yet there was no doubting their own efficiency when it came to serving the delightful supper which followed the meeting. The supper was held in the chapel basement, a

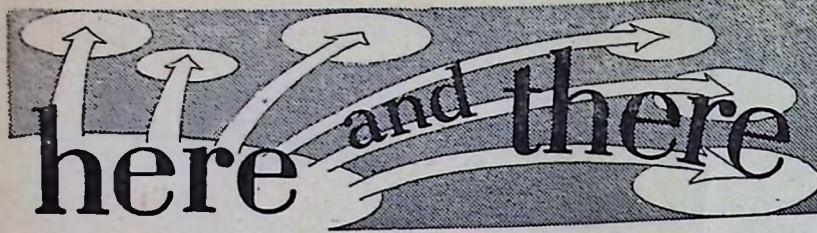
somewhat cooler spot after another very oppressive evening.

My over-night host was on vacation, so he was able to run me around the district during the next day. In the afternoon we visited the famous Thorold Locks, a magnificent engineering project whereby boats can pass from Lake Erie to the lower waters of Lake Ontario—and vice-versa. It was fascinating to watch the ships either rise or fall, with the water being either pumped in or let out. While we were there, the campers from the Disciples' Conference Ground also arrived to see the sights, on their way to the Niagara Falls. Laurie Trezise was with them, and a very welcome sight he was! We lingered so long at Thorold, that we got back to Welland with only sufficient time for a hurried snack before my host drove me another twenty miles to the Windmill Point chapel, where, once again, folk were assembled, waiting for me.

The ladies were in charge of the meeting, and this time one of their own number led it very effectively indeed. Once again, there was Australian-type supper afterwards, and opportunity for informal fellowship.

Next morning, the chairman of the Official Board drove me to Crystal Beach, a very popular holiday resort with a fine stretch of sandy beach and a "Luna Park" fun fair attached. Then, with his wife, son and mother-in-law, we drove on towards Niagara Falls. It was a glorious day, and as the Canadian foreshore of the Niagara River has been carefully developed as park-lands, the drive had scenic charm all the way. We stopped for a picnic lunch at one of the many tables set beside the river—a delightful interlude—before reaching Niagara itself. We stood awhile, watching the sunlight glisten on the spray of the Falls, and the rainbow hovering over the lower reaches of the water. Then we drove on to Niagara-on-the-Lake, where a tent city was already taking shape for the Scouts' World Jamboree. Later, my host and hostess returned me to the Falls, where I spent several more enjoyable hours before catching the bus to Toronto.

These two weeks in the country churches of Ontario had been a healthy corrective after my two months among the larger churches of the States. Here were people facing problems much like our own—and preachers with cars more like our own!



With much regret, the church at Subiaco, W.A., announces that its loved minister, Roy Raymond, has declined acceptance of a further three years' engagement. His present ministry, therefore, will conclude as from March 31, 1956. This will mean that, in two terms, Mr. Raymond will have served the Subiaco church for twelve and a half years.

There were nine decisions at the Bible Mission, Fairfield, N.S.W., on Sunday, Nov. 13. W. Turnell, local minister, is conducting the mission.

Anniversary celebrations of 101 years of Christian witness by the Lygon-st. church, Melbourne, Vic., were enjoyed by many past members and visitors on Nov. 6. Attendances were 167 (morning) and 103 (evening), with a total offering for the day of just on £190. Special thanks for help during the day go to visiting artists, the ladies (led by Mrs. Swain) who prepared and served meals, and A. Johnson, J. Atkinson, R. and M. McColl. At a church dinner on Nov. 9, greetings and messages were received from interstate and overseas. A youth concert followed. S. R. Baker addressed the evening meeting on the 13th, when Misses Henshild and Walton sang a duet.

The church at Gardiner, Vic., recently honored its organist, Miss Vera Sheehan, who has now served in that position for 25 years. She was presented with a gold bracelet watch.

Ivan Nixon, of Pt. Lincoln, S.A., conducted a fortnight's mission with the church at Balaklava, S.A., during October, culminating in the church anniversary on Oct. 23 and 24. The thankoffering to cover mission expenses amounted to £71.

Albert Whitehouse, director of District 25 of the United Steelworkers of America, and the first organized labor representative to be elected a vice-president of the National Council of Churches, U.S.A., recently urged the American Baptist Convention to "abolish the laity" so that all can "become preachers, and move church work out of the church building and into the community." Mr. Whitehouse, who is a member of Disciples of Christ, and who was also one of the speakers at our Fifth World Convention, stressed the need for his

listeners really to "put into practice that glorious Protestant doctrine of the universal priesthood of all believers."

The church at Cottesloe, W.A., where George Smith is minister, has been greatly encouraged by the tent mission conducted by J. K. Bond, of Wembley. The mission was extended a fortnight longer than originally planned, and resulted in 43 decisions, mostly adults. The thank-offering totalled £235, and the balance above expenses will go towards the purchase of a new tent.

The Victorian and Tasmanian Women's Conference council monthly meeting will be held in the Swanston-st. lecture hall on Dec. 2, at 1 p.m. We wish to draw attention to the fact that all gifts for the Hospital Visitation Committee will be accepted at this meeting. Mrs. T. Weir, of East Preston, will lead devotions.—B. L. Williams, sec.

Mr. and Mrs. Davidson were farewelled from the church at Ma Ma Creek, Qld., on Oct. 12. E. T. Hart (Toowoomba) presided, in the absence of E. F. Cole through illness. Gifts were presented to Mr. and Mrs. Davidson from the church, Women's Fellowship, B.S., C.E., and circuit B.S.'s, and to the three children by the B.S. Toowoomba church also made a presentation. Speakers were Mr. Mackenzie (Ministers' Fraternal), L. Pitman (Toowoomba), H. Lowe (Harlaxton), H. Christensen (S.Q.C.C.) Crs. Mayes, Horrocks and B. Sloane (H.T.) and Miss B. Sloane (A.N.C.M.). E. Rosenberg addressed the church on the 30th.

Members of our churches will be interested to learn that Fred W. Bradley of the Black Rock, Vic., church has nominated for election as General Secretary of the Clothing Trades Union of the State of Victoria. This important position would offer a splendid opportunity for Christian service.—Will H. Clay.

F. A. Youens has accepted a third term of three years' engagement with the church at Gardiner, Vic., as from July 1957, when the present term expires. He will be freed by the church to conduct a six-weeks' mission in Western Australia about next Easter.

On Nov. 6, V. G. Boettcher (pres., S.Q.C.C.), visited Gatton, Qld., to officially constitute the church there, 25 members being received into fellowship. Mr. Boettcher also spoke at Ma Ma Creek. Lars Larsen spoke at Gatton on the 30th, and is conducting gospel services there every Sunday evening.

The church at Kaniva, Vic., reports the resignation of its minister, M. T. Lawrie, who has accepted a call to Kadina, S.A., as from April, 1956.

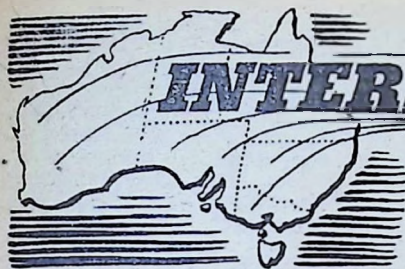
As we prepare for press, news has just reached this office that the manse of the church at Whiting, Ind., U.S.A., where Australian P. R. Thickins is minister, was burned almost to a complete loss on Friday, Nov. 11. Mr. Thickins writes: "The furnace in the basement became over-heated and burst, filling the inside of the home with burning fuel. In about an hour the place was almost burned to a shell." He is thankful that it happened during the afternoon, while his children were at school, and he was in the church office. Mrs. Thickins was in hospital, recovering from surgery earlier in the week. All her clothes, and the children's, were destroyed, and most of their other possessions, none being covered by insurance. It is estimated that it will cost between \$12,000 and \$14,000 to re-construct the manse. Mr. and Mrs. Thickins entertained the editor for one day during his overseas visit this year, and later were hosts to Principal and Mrs. A. W. Stephenson.



Helping Aborigines in Vic. Western Districts

Portland Church of Christ members have followed up their campaign arousing the community to the needs of their local aborigine population, by commencing a monthly service at Lake Condah. Lake Condah is the site of an old Government Aboriginal Reserve (about 25 miles from Portland), to which a number of natives still feel closely attached. At present there is only one native family living amongst the ruins of the old greystone buildings. Other aborigines come in to service from surrounding areas.

The Portland members conducting the service at Lake Condah would be greatly helped if they could obtain the use of a folding organ. Any person having a suitable organ, who would care to place it at the service of the Portland church, could contact Stan. Davey, secretary of the Vic.-Tas. Aborigine Committee, 1098 Heidelberg-rd., Ivanhoe, N.21, phone, JX 4155.



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

Discipleship

- Miss I. Johnson, Burwood, N.S.W.
Mrs. McLean, Echuca, Vic.
Miss J. Walker, Mrs. Noble, East Malvern, Vic.
Carol Hempstead, Lois Hawkins, John Hartas, John Bentley, John Cairncross, Rockdale, N.S.W.
Maureen Croker, Kilburn, S.A.
Miss C. Moran, Oriel Drake, Nailsworth, S.A.
Mrs. Pettifer, Noble Park, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. H. Freiberg, Wynnum, Qld.
Malcolm McDonald, Mr. Somerton, Whyalla, S.A.
Miss G. Isaacs, Clayton, Vic.

Membership

- Mr. and Mrs. Costain, from Queensland to Mildura, Vic.
Mrs. Barrit, from Melbourne to Mildura, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. Dickfos, Gordon, Noel, Daphne, Ray and Lance, from Gatton to Toowoomba, Qld.
Mr. Noble, from North Richmond to East Malvern, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. R. Thompson, from South Yarra to Carnegie, Vic.
Mrs. L. Halliday, from Hampton to Carnegie, Vic.
Mr. Gehan, to Carnegie, Vic.
Miss Redman, from Unley to Fullarton, S.A.
R. Gillman, from North Adelaide to Loxton, S.A.

Marriage

- Dr. Jean Collison, Sydney, N.S.W., to Dr. Neville York, East Kew, Vic.
Margaret Manning to Max Hurren, Carnegie, Vic.
Fay Kibble to Stephen Rogers, Georgetown, N.S.W.

Fallen Asleep

- W. W. MacIndoe, Burwood, N.S.W.
G. Quenault, Hampton, Vic.
Mrs. Dolling, Moreland, Vic.

Western Australia

Subiaco (R. Raymond). — Both church and school anniversaries were attended by large and enthusiastic gatherings. Church dinner served as fitting welcome home to preacher and Mrs. Raymond, who had been attending special meetings in S.A. Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Vawser were also welcomed from their trip abroad. Evening services are well attended. On Nov. 6 a young man made his decision, and on 13th two young women made theirs. Church has enjoyed fellowship during recent weeks with Allen and Joy Brooke (Brighton), Lois Vawser (Moreland), Jean Hornby (Brunswick), H. E. Easton (Footscray), Annette Kirwood (Brisbane), B. S. Wills (Adelaide), Isla Miller (Darwin), Mrs. C. R. Cooper (Sydney). Very successful youth camp was held at Waterman's Bay. Help from Messrs. F. Stephenson and H. B. Vawser was much appreciated. Y.P. conducted their own study course very efficiently.

Queensland

Bundaberg (F. D. Craig). — Church is in good heart as 32nd anniversary approaches. Kinder hall has been painted inside, Mission Band supplying paint, and men the labor. B.S. anniversary on Oct. 16 was successful. Mission Band held missionary evening on 28th, when clothing was displayed before being sent overseas. 16 Y.P. made trip to Maryborough (72 miles) to play tennis against Y.P. there, and came home victors by two games. C.O.B. offering amounted to £33. One lady made confession on Nov. 6. The year draws to a close with thanks to God for many additions, thus strengthening the work.

Toowoomba (E. T. Hart and G. Gibson). — On Oct. 30, during gospel service, Capt. Draney and Lieut. Paton and 33 girls of Girls' Life Brigade were enrolled by Major Harris (Brisbane). Captain Hole and Lieut. Deuble and 25 boys were enrolled by Captain Adams in Boys' Life Brigade. Text chosen for year is Proverbs 3: 6. These Brigades are the first Toowoomba Companies to be formed. After address given by E. T. Hart, two from G.L.B. and one from B.L.B. accepted Christ. Margaret-st. ladies are now holding regular suburban meetings in homes of members. Y.P.F. recently held cottage meeting in home of Mr. and Mrs. N. Proud. Tent mission at Crown-st. with E. T. Hart as missionary commenced on Nov. 6, with one decision.

Albion (G. J. Andrews). — An impressive missionary witness was given

by B.S. at evening service on Oct. 23. This coincided with offering made for Christmas cheer by B.S., and approx. £17 was received. Men's Fellowship met on 25th and were addressed by C. H. Carter on *Temperance in Europe*. Annual concert of all auxiliaries was enjoyed by many friends on Nov. 3. Mr. Tinney was morning speaker on 13th. A tape recording of an address by Dr. Ray E. Snodgrass was presented at evening service. J.C.E. break-up was held on 6th. Visitors were R. D. Skerman (Dalby) and Mr. and Mrs. W. Rollings (Belmore).

Wynnum (W. Giezendanner). — During absence of preacher at Marburg and Boonah, K. Burkhead and J. Sherriff addressed meetings. Church is preparing to mark thirtieth anniversary with mission led by S. Vanham.

New South Wales

Burwood (J. Henderson). — B.S. anniversary commenced on Oct. 23 when K. Larcombe was guest speaker. Kinder afternoon was held on 30th with Mrs. Turnell as speaker. Demonstration and prizegiving concluded the services on Nov. 2. Stewardship is being emphasised at a special series of Convention meetings being held during Nov. A B.S. girl was baptised on evening of 6th. Meetings are well attended and visitors have been welcomed. Mr. Ridley (Griffith) was present at mid-week meeting on 9th.

Hornsby (K. R. Fennell). — Monthly fellowship tea was held on Oct. 30, at which R. Greenhalgh was guest speaker. He conducted gospel service, and was assisted in song by G. Glazier. R. Barr (Auburn) was soloist at gospel service on Nov. 6. Working bee on chapel roof was held on 12th. Recent speakers have been Messrs. Bartholomew, Childs and A. Surtees. Miss Riepon was welcomed back to services after her recent sickness.

Kingsford (A. G. Elliott, M.A., B.Sc., Dip.Ed.). — On Oct. 28, helpful combined clubs' social was held. J.C.E. is making steady progress. Film *Voice of the Deep* recently attracted considerable interest. Youth service, on Nov. 6, included "Youth Question Time." Several Y.P. took part, including P. MacSween and F. Elliott. Sunday morning talks on *The Model Prayer* have been helpful and instructive. Mr. and Mrs. Lovell have been welcomed back after visit to United Kingdom. Sympathy has been extended to relatives in passing of aged Mrs. Miller.

Merewether (W. D. Howard).—Annual meeting was held on Oct. 18, reports indicating progress in all depts. Preacher's report disclosed seven additions by faith and baptism. B.S. membership showed increase for fourth successive year. Girls' Club has grown to membership of 16 in three months. W. D. Howard was unanimously invited to continue his ministry for further 12 months. Decision was screened at after-church fellowship on 30th, attendance being over 60. 69th anniversary services were held Oct. 22-23, with P. E. Thomas (Marrickville) as guest speaker. I. A. Paternoster, (Fed. Conf. Pres.) was present on 22nd, and brought greetings. Messrs. Greenhalgh and McArthur (H.M. Committee) were speakers on Nov. 6.

Cardiff (W. D. Howard). — B.S. anniversary was held on Oct. 9, D. A. Oldfield (Sydney) and W. D. Howard being speakers. I. A. Paternoster (Fed. Conf. Pres.) was visiting speaker on 23rd. There was one re-dedication at close of evening service. Church anniversary was held on Nov. 13 with W. D. Howard as speaker.

Mosman (D. W. Tonkin). — Church held meeting on Oct. 26 to discuss financing of the work. C. Saxby (Lane Cove) was morning speaker on 30th. Visitors were Mrs. and Miss M. Burns. C. A. Murray spoke on morning of Nov. 6. B.S. is practising for anniversary. Mid-week Fellowship is continuing discussion of the Revelation.

Rockdale (A. B. Clark). — Very good meetings are being held, and church has been encouraged at five Y.P. making their decision. Attendances at gospel services are improving. B.&F.B.S. presented programme on Nov. 12. R. V. Amos (Chatswood) was morning speaker on 13th.

South Auburn (L. S. Dewberry). — B.S. anniversary held on Oct. 30 and Nov. 1, was well attended. R. Greenhalgh presented challenge to B.S. teachers, when he spoke at Teachers' Consecration Service. Special series of meetings under title of John Citizen Campaign is increasing numbers at gospel services.

Wiley Park (W. J. Crossman). — Preacher and wife spent their annual holidays in Melbourne with their son, Chaplain G. J. Crossman of the R.A.A.F. (Laverton). Appreciation is expressed to brethren who filled appointments during preacher's absence. Girls' Club had successful anniversary during Oct. Club also arranged gift evening for aborigine children in far western N.S.W. Ladies' Fellowship has been thanked for gift of piano, valued at £170, for use in church building. Much sickness has been experienced during past few months. Miss Lorna Hand, who has been sick for a long time, is now able to attend

service. A. Potter has also suffered much. Mrs. Fishburn recently spent few days in hospital. I. A. Paternoster (Fed. Conf. Pres.) conducted gospel service on Nov. 13.

Marrickville (P. E. Thomas, B.A.). — Bi-monthly evening meeting of Women's Fellowship was held on Nov. 1. Mrs. P. E. Thomas (pres.) chaired meeting and programme included "Favorite Gem" session. B.S. anniversary services on Nov. 6 again presented bright singing by children and excellent messages from K. Larcombe (Kingsford) and preacher. Demonstration on Nov. 9 reached high standard in presentation of plays by each department. Attendances at all services were best for few years. Thanks are expressed to L. E. Thomas, T. W. Benson and their band of helpers, who decorated church upon the theme *Thy Word is Truth*. At gospel service on 13th a young man made his decision.

Georgetown (W. Hoffman). — B.S. anniversary was marked by big meetings and good programmes. A. Thurrowgood and W. Howard were speakers. Picnic was held at Maitland Park, where notice was taken of hard work of restoration which has been carried out following severe flood early in the year. Mrs. Street, church and school pianiste, is in hospital recovering from serious operation. Five boys and girls from B.S. have recently decided for Christ. Board is taking steps to provide women with up-to-date kitchen. All meetings are being well attended.

South Australia

Balaklava (L. G. Armstrong). — Sisters' Fellowship held monthly meeting on Oct 25 when Miss Ray Ewes (pres. Northern District Sisters' Conference) gave presidential address. Ladies travelled to Gawler to attend auxiliary executive meeting of N.D. Conference on 26th. Y.P. attended Owen birthday rally held in Owen hall on 28th. Y.P. held fellowship tea on 30th, when Marjorie Shepherd spoke on her trip to National C.E. Convention.

Kilburn (H. G. Norris). — Sisters' Guild held meeting on Nov. 9, when Mr. Norris spoke on Churches of Christ Mission work overseas. Attendance of ladies was very good. At close of gospel service on 13th, a B.S. scholar confessed Christ. F. Lawrance conducted C.Y.F. Club on 11th, when fine gathering of Y.P. enjoyed games and competitions. Mr. Norris provided devotional session.

Semaphore (R. H. Sercombe). — There have been good attendances at recent meetings. Men's Fellowship tea was held on Oct. 16, when Mr. Young (C.M.S.) was speaker. G. P.

Brooker was elected pres. Mrs. Merrett (Semaphore Park Baptist) was speaker at monthly meeting of Ladies' Guild. B.S. picnic was held at Tusmore Park on Oct. 10. Film night presented by Youth Council in aid of B.S. equipment was success. A. C. Samuels and W. Beiler conducted evening services while preacher was away speaking at anniversaries. Mrs. Robertson has moved to country. Y.P. visited Police Headquarters on Nov. 2. Mrs. Oram, Mrs. Cornish and others are laid aside with sickness. At evening service on 6th, Max Hupfeld and Betty Hayter gave short talks. Mrs. Wells has returned from trip to Eastern States.

Prospect. — B.S. picnic was held on Oct. 10 at Morialta. Enfield Heights and Gepps Cross schools joined in the outing. Dedicated Men was filmed at evening service on 23rd. Ladies' Guild annual meeting was held on 27th, when 170 sat down to luncheon. Sympathy is extended to Miss Wood in recent loss of her father.

Fullarton (A. W. Morris). — Manse was open for inspection on Nov. 12 to enable members to see the valuable property. Afternoon tea was provided and £9 raised toward Building Fund. Miss M. Patrick was soloiste at morning service on 13th. A member was received into fellowship by transfer, and three young men by faith and obedience. Song service preceded gospel meeting, led by Geo. Cox. Mrs. Outlaw was soloiste.

Nailsworth (N. Gavros). — Baptismal service was held on Nov. 13, and a senior B.S. scholar made the good confession. Mrs. T. Turner gave appreciated address at Women's Fellowship. Ladies' Guild has gone into recess for 1955. Under auspices of I.C.E., film evening on work of Social Service Dept. was held on 16th. A. R. Jones, State Organiser, was speaker.

Loxton (J. McCormick). — Loxton-Moorook churches have received a young man into fellowship following his baptism at Loxton. Preacher conducted two weeks' mission at Moorook. Fellowship hour was enjoyed at conclusion of the final service. There has been one addition to membership, by transfer.

Whyalla (A. E. Stevens). — Annual meeting showed all phases of work to be in good heart. Messrs. Bryant, Tregloan and Pickup were re-elected and Messrs. Clutterbuck and Lindsay added to Board. There were four re-dedications and one decision at youth camp, at which G. W. Wood was study leader. £105 has so far been contributed to Temple Day appeal held on Nov. 6. Evening service featured film, *The Promise*, and a married man made the good confes-

sion. On 13th, two were immersed, and received into membership on 20th. Preacher recently visited Ungarra for B.S. anniversary services. Sis. F. Pickup and Mr. Simpson have returned from hospital. Clubs have planned pet show, and proceeds are for recent Temple Day. Recent visitors included folk from Sunshine, Vic., and Devonport, Tas.

Victoria

Ascot Vale (H. Gross, B.A.). — Church entertained 40 children and adults from Greensborough Home on Oct. 19. B. Sterling (B.S. supt.) gave a talk, illustrated with models. Women's Auxiliary held street stall and raised £10 for their work. Kinders held their anniversary on 30th with Mrs. Miles (Blackburn) as speaker. B.S. anniversary on Nov. 1 was given by scholars presenting play on life of Jesus. This was well performed by scholars, aged from 8 to 15 years. There was splendid attendance of parents at both sessions. At evening service N. Gilmore (East Malvern) spoke. Mrs. Greenwood and Mrs. Patterson (two aged members) miss fellowship of church, but are keenly interested in the work. Mrs. Lewis and Robin have gone to reside at Maryborough. We welcome home from holiday Mr. and Mrs. F. Petrie. Mrs. Will Brown is unable to attend services through illness.

Peel-st., Ballarat. — On Nov. 13, dedication of hymn and reading boards was made to memory of late Mr. and Mrs. Vincent by their family. A large congregation was present when Mr. Graham spoke very highly of their wonderful love and service for Jesus Christ. Favorite hymns were sung and L. Robinson, grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Vincent was soloist. A young lady made the good confession. Prayer meetings continue in good attendance. Concrete paths being laid in front of chapel by working bee held each Saturday are improvement to property.

Balwyn (J. E. Brooke). — Morning speaker on Nov. 13 was J. Cain (Camberwell). Mr. Brooke, who interchanged with Mr. Cain, is also conducting a special visitation campaign at Camberwell. Organ fund has now passed £400. Y.W.F. held successful evening on 16th when Mrs. Berg was speaker, speaking on her world tour from a woman's angle. Cricket club has won its last three matches.

Saywater (R. Ryall) — Film Journey into Faith was screened at evening service recently. W.M.B. had enjoyable evening when E. Gill (Blackburn) and R. Sandells (Box Hill) showed slides of their holiday trips. There was good attendance at special family service. At church officers' meeting it was agreed to re-engage

preacher for another 12 months. Meetings are well maintained. Mr. Ryall exchanged pulpits with E. Rose (Croydon).

Belmont, Geelong (J. Small). — Retiring deacons and deaconesses were re-elected at annual meeting, and J. Barnes was added to Official Board. Sec.'s report showed increase in membership of seven for year. A number of Y.P. have made their decision in recent weeks. Church has accepted officers' proposal for financing and erection of new kinder hall adjacent to chapel. Ladies' Guild presented church with cheque for £100 as contribution towards cost of new hall.

East Kew (D. W. Mansell). — Preacher has returned from mission at Bentleigh. There were three decisions on Oct. 23. Presbyterian nurse was baptised at gospel service on 30th, when a number of nurses attended and assisted in service. Several members have returned from interstate holidays. Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Bond have returned after six months' world tour. A number of members journeyed to Sydney to attend wedding of an East Kew member. Services are well attended and interest is being maintained.

Echuca (C. Watson). — B.S. anniversary on Nov. 6 was very successful. A. White (Nth. Essendon) being special speaker. Singing of children, under baton of A. Rosendale was excellent. Concert and prizegiving was held on 8th. Attendances are improving at services, and a married woman made her decision on Oct. 30. K. Watson spent time in hospital following accident at work. Mrs. Sanders and Mrs. Schmidt have been able to attend meetings again after illness. J.C.E. recently enjoyed social evening. Good Companions have recommenced under leadership of Mrs. Watson.

Gardiner (F. A. Youens). — Working up to Temple Day, church was set the aim of 200 each Lord's Day at breaking of bread during Nov. and 200 communed on 6th. Business meeting added £2 per week to preacher's allowance, and decided to purchase typewriter for sec. Jos. Adams and J. W. Enniss were elected life-elders, and E. Buckmaster, C. Daff, R. Geyer, K. Jones and A. Thomas for five years. B.S. had good wet-day-picnic at Kilsyth. R. Baker (B.&F.B.S.) addressed church and received £40 for Society funds. Noele McLeish and Gordon Daff were given a kitchen tea on 12th.

Hampton (K. J. Clinton, B.A.). — Fifteen members of Y.W.F. had enjoyable house party at Kallista first week-end in Nov. Girls' Physical Culture Class presented £100 to church as result of their year's work. Large

number of Y.P. attended barbecue on 5th, and youth tea on 13th. B.S. gave £43/10/- for Dhond Hospital this year. Australian Nurses' Christian Movement choir assisted at evening service on 13th, when chapel was filled. New carpet has been purchased for platform. Sympathy is expressed to Mrs. Quenault in loss of her husband.

Kaniva (M. T. Lawrie). — Youth Fellowship held successful "Amateur Hour" on Oct. 11. Kaniva B.S. picnic was held at Moree on 22nd. Number of scholars at Serviceton B.S. has increased to 23, after commencing with 13 on May 15 of this year. Three delegates attended meeting of N.W. Conference Committee on Oct. 29. It was decided to continue helping Minyip for the present. C.O.B. offering amounted to £186. C.E. attended rally at Yanac on 29th, when C. E. Curtis (Bordertown) was speaker.

Mildura. — B.S. anniversary on Oct. 16 was successful, chapel being crowded each service. J. Chivell (Adelaide) was guest speaker. Prizes were distributed, and a film shown on 19th. Shoulder spray was presented to all lady teachers, and pencil to men by the senior girls. Mr. and Mrs. Jackel and daughters (Wedderburn) were recent visitors. Church has welcomed a Queensland family and a lady from Melbourne who have come to reside in the district, also Janice Agars who has been in S.A. for many months. On Nov. 2, Sunraysia Women's Conference held luncheon in Mildura school hall. Mrs. Oram delighted all, telling of her tour through England and Europe. In afternoon Mrs. E. L. Williams was guest speaker, first telling of women's work in our churches, then of her trip overseas. Speakers over past weeks have been Messrs. Lang (broadcast), K. Cameron, P. and B. Waters (Dareton) and L. Keatch (Merbein). Services are still being well maintained.

Montrose (B. Richards). — At church business meeting, following officers were elected: J. Reidy (sec.), F. Rogers (treas.), O. Finger, W. Hayes, W. Fordham, K. Hickin. B.S. re-elected Mrs. F. Rogers (supt.), and Miss G. Rogers (sec.). At Ladies' Fellowship birthday meeting, held on Nov. 3, visiting speaker was Mrs. Waterman. On Oct. 20, 78th church anniversary services were held, when speakers were B. F. Huntsman, J. E. Brooke and C. Dow. Successful talent scheme was conducted to provide funds for almost completed youth hall. Thornbury Y.P. conducted morning service, and Missionary Aviation Fellowship conducted youth gospel service on Nov. 6. Visiting speaker on 13th was S. Neighbour (Blackburn). Presentation was made and good wishes of church extended to preacher, who is leaving shortly.

North Fitzroy. — B.S. anniversary was held on Oct. 9 and 16. Choir sang well under direction of A. Arnott. Speakers were L. Brooker and C. Cole. Kinder items fitted in with theme, *The Good Shepherd*, presented at one of the services. Morning speakers have been: D. Ferguson, V. Foster, R. Ennis, F. Morgan and C. Cole. W.M.B. had Mrs. L. Williams as speaker, showing slides of Indian Mission Fields. Soloists at evening services have been G. Ogden, Miss W. Lee and A. Arnott.

Shepparton (D. A. V. Thomas). — Church began mission with H. J. Patterson on Nov. 12. Men built storage shed in church grounds. Boys' Club recommenced on 4th under leadership of Mr. Thomas, assisted by G. Bamford and N. Doyle. Sick list includes Mrs. Everett and Mr. Dunn. Mrs. North is again in hospital. Sympathy of church is with Mr. and Mrs. M. Gillespie in loss of baby son. Visitors have included Mr. and Mrs. N. Brown (Stanhope) and Mr. and Mrs. A. Johnston (Dhurringile).

Warragul (M. D. Keatch). — B.S. anniversary was successful on Oct. 30. Scholars sang splendidly under leadership of H. Broderick. R. Muller was guest speaker at all services. K. A. Jones spoke at both services on Nov. 6, also at Youth Fellowship tea, and interested all with highlights of his recent trip overseas. R. Dixon was present at B.S. and evening service on 13th, concluding with some splendid color slides on Mission work in India. Prayer meeting has commenced prior to gospel service. Tennis club has been commenced and has made good beginning. M. Keatch is settling helpfully into work.

Noble Park. — Combined prayer meeting and baptismal service was held at Springvale on Nov. 16. Springvale and Clayton churches are helping by providing presidents for morning services one Sunday each month. Gratitude is expressed to visiting speakers. C.W.F. held sale of work on Oct. 29, when £86 was raised for Building Fund. Plans have now been passed by Health authorities for erection of new building. B.S. sec. reported record attendance for month of Oct. with an average of 81 scholars and nine teachers. Men have been making toys during year to furnish Christmas tree. Several popular social evenings have been held for parents and scholars.

Berwick (R. Chamberlain). — Many friends attended Boys' Explorer Club on occasion of first birthday celebration, when Dr. N. L. Stephenson was guest speaker. 15 Y.P. went on hike to Pakenham on Nov. 1, and enjoyed barbecue lunch on property of

S. Symes. Conveyance by A. Funston was appreciated. On Oct. 30, community singing at favorite hymn service was enjoyed. Inaugural meeting of Adult Fellowship Group was held in Oct. This takes form of discussion round luncheon table after morning service. Successful anniversary services were held on Nov. 6, when G. L. Smith (Boronia) was speaker for day. His addresses were much appreciated. At evening service, Y.P. enacted play, *What Shall I Be?* On following evening concert, with distribution of prizes, was held. Items and play, *The Bishop's Candlesticks*, were given by scholars and Y.P. Use of stage curtains loaned by Nth. Essendon B.S. was greatly appreciated. Record offerings were received throughout services.

Carnegie (A. R. Lloyd). — R. N. Gilmore (East Malvern) was speaker at worship service on Nov. 6. Monthly parade of all auxiliaries was held in evening. On morning of 13th, B.S. teachers' dedication service was held. After gospel service there was a favorite hymn singing session, led by S. Corlett, followed by tea and biscuits served by Ladies' Aid. Hospital Sunday offering was £14.

Moreland (J. Turner, B.A.). — Church has been saddened at passing of Mrs. Dolling, a much loved member for many years. At family night, Mr. Barber was presented with Testament as being "patriarch" of largest family and connections present. P.B.P. are commended on conducting of evening service on Nov. 6, also on second places in drama competitions and basketball. Gymnasium held successful display and presented church with £45. Dual purpose after-church fellowship was held on 13th. Dinner service was given to Joan Clarke and Stan Beanham on their approaching marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Turner received silver tea service on occasion of their silver wedding. Study group maintains interest and numbers.

Clayton (J. L. Reid). — Church has benefited from 10-day mission held with J. Robinson (Campaigners for

Christ), when building was crowded on most nights. Annual business meeting was held on Nov. 10, when officers elected were: C. Barnett, R. Brewis, N. Kingsley, J. Hill, G. Knox, M. Woff, J. Wood and W. Munyard. Reports were read, and all departments are progressing steadily. Ladies held annual effort for Social Service recently, when £10/10/- was raised. Evening took form of picture night, and openings of various churches in district, including Clayton, were shown. One young lady had been baptised after recent decision.

Warrnambool (K. W. Barton, L.Th.). — C.M.S. at monthly meeting on Oct. 20 were thrilled with story of Redex Trial brought by E. Richardson and G. McDowell, members of Koroit team. Their interesting narrative was enhanced by maps, literature, and presence of car used. C.E. was visited on Oct. 21 by Y.P. of Salvation Army. W.M.B. concluded Talent Scheme with film night on 27th, when travel and industrial pictures were enjoyed. Their effort for the year now amounts to £75. Mr. and Mrs. N. Bradley and family (Warragul) have come to reside here, Mr. Bradley having been appointed chief announcer at local broadcasting station, 3YB. I.C.E. has been formed and gives promise of being most active. Y.P.C.E. consecration night on Nov. 4, was also a reunion evening, old Endeavorers contributing to meeting. Mrs. Papworth is convalescing after illness, and Mrs. W. Hill has returned home from hospital. Mrs. Petterd is improving after operation. Church sympathises with Mrs. R. Brown and Alf Best in death of their brother, Geo. Best, after lengthy period of suffering. Mrs. Clowes has sympathy of church in death of her brother. Miss M. Wright has been appointed kinder supt., and A. Cleaves R.S. sec.

Kyneton (D. Oakes). — Church has bought Drummond church organ. Midland Youth Fellowship rally was held on Oct. 1. Mr. Henderson (C.O.B.) and G. Goudie have given appreciated addresses recently. Youth societies held enjoyable bonfire on Nov. 4.

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THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

A Canberra Church Venture

Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Horsey keep the store at Jerrawa, 12 miles from Yass and 53 miles from Canberra. Nearly every Sunday they come to Canberra for one of the services, often bringing with them some of the Jerrawa folk. These visiting people have greatly enjoyed the monthly Community Hymn Sing that has become a feature of Canberra gospel services. They wondered if perhaps we could have one at Jerrawa.

Jerrawa consists of the store, the siding, the hall, a tiny church building used by Anglicans and Methodists, and a couple of houses, surrounded by sheep runs and farms. However, the Horseys thought that the Jerrawa folk would turn out to a Saturday night Community Hymn Sing in the hall. The date was fixed for Nov. 5, and the Canberra church was presented with the challenge of making the journey of 104 miles to bring the gospel in message and song.

On 5th, twelve cars carrying 61 people, went to Jerrawa. At eight o'clock the programme commenced, special invitations having been prepared and sent out by Mr. and Mrs. Horsey throughout the district. In response to these, 80 people joined the 61 from Canberra to pack the hall. Some came for many miles and brought their families. Old and new hymns were sung with tremendous zest as the spirit of friendship and devotion caught on. The message of the Cross was received warmly and reverently. The Jerrawa people provided a delightful supper before the Canberra folk returned for home. One question asked by both Jerrawa and Canberra people was, "When is the next one?"—G. R. Stirling.

S.Q.C.C. Conference

The tenth annual Southern Queensland Country Conference of Churches of Christ was held at Lowood in ideal weather conditions on Oct. 8, 1955.

Morning and afternoon sessions were fairly well attended, and presided over by E. Neumann. Both sessions were preceded by devotional exercises, led by V. G. Boettcher and F. J. Winter. The general tone of conference was good and we look forward with confidence to the future. Reports of the past year's activities indicate a steady forward move in various ways.

One important project undertaken was the erection of a fine church building in the township of Warwick, where Stephen Cheek, one of God's

great men, some 70 odd years ago first planted the cause of New Testament Christianity, on behalf of Churches of Christ in Queensland. This fine structure was officially opened and dedicated for worship on March 26, 1955. A week of special meetings followed and was conducted by S. W. Vanham, several people making their decision for Christ, while other contacts were made. At present a week-end ministry is being maintained with F. J. Winter (Toowoomba), who is doing a very fine work. Plans are being made to establish a full-time ministry in the near future, provided a suitable man can be found. Another item of interest was the decision to conduct several missions in the Conference area during the coming year.

A feature of the conference sessions was the inspirational period. The theme chosen was, "The Holy Spirit." W. J. Davidson (Ma Ma Creek), E. T. Hart (Toowoomba), and R. Hilford (East Ipswich) were the special speakers, and some very fine thoughts on the topic were presented, proving very helpful and inspiring.

Finally, the evangelistic session at night brought the Conference to a happy climax, when C. G. Flood (Ann-st.) preached to a packed house on "The Secret of Living Powerfully." Several vocal items were rendered during the evening.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: pres., V. G.

Boettcher; pres.-elect, F. Smith; treas., L. Lobeigieger; sec., J. C. Christensen.

BIRTHS

MARCHANT (nee Wheaton). — To Merle and Brian, at Kaniva District Hospital, on Nov. 8, God's gift of a daughter — Dianne Merle. Both well. Sister for Jennifer.

HALLS (nee Deane). — On Nov. 14, at Kelvin Grove Hospital, Bacchus Marsh, to Dorothy and Frank, a son — Graham Frank.

DEATH

HUNTSMAN. — On Nov. 13, 1955 (in his sleep) at his residence, 130 Were-st., Brighton, Albert Victor, dearly loved brother of Benjamin W., Jeanie, Fanny (Mrs. Ryall), Emily (Mrs. Blamires), Lydia—all deceased—and Elsie, of 33 Welfare-pde., Burwood, Vic.

IN MEMORIAM

WHITE. — In loving memory of Dad, called Home, Nov. 25, 1949.

"At rest."
—Always remembered by his loving wife and family.

WOODBIDGE. — Treasured memories of George Bartlett, who fell asleep, Nov. 18, 1938, loved husband of Ann, father of George (dec.), Lucy, Esther, Alice.

"Still sadly missed."



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ENGAGEMENT

JOHNSON—GOODOCHKIN. — The engagement is announced of Lois Beryl, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Johnson, 6 Cheddar-rd (East), Reservoir, to George John, only son of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. Goodochkin, Shanghai.

Coming Events

MAIDSTONE BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY. — Nov. 27. 3 p.m., Kinder demonstration and Cradle Roll Day. Mrs. Clencie, T.I.T.C., I.T.C. 7 p.m., Film night. Film *This Way to Heaven*. A warm welcome awaits you.

HAWTHORN (VIC.) BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—Nov. 27. Speakers: 3 p.m., R. Brooker; 7 p.m., J. Cain. All past members specially invited.

PASCOE VALE 7th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY. — Dec. 4. Speakers: 11 a.m., W. R. Hibbert. 2.45 p.m., Bible School. 7 p.m., B. F. Huntsman (Conf. Pres.); soloists, Mrs. Smart. Past members and friends welcomed.

ORGANISING SECRETARY

The National Christian Endeavor Union of Australia invites interested persons to apply for the position of organising secretary (full-time). Applicants are required to have qualifications which include a love for Christian Endeavor, a sound knowledge of the movement, experienced administrative and organising ability.

Salary and place of residence to be determined at time of appointment.

Applications including full details of name, age and experience should be addressed to the secretary, National Christian Endeavor Union of Australia, 88 Auburn-rd., Birrong, N.S.W., and should be forwarded in time to be received not later than December 31, 1955.

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The twentieth annual meeting of
C.F.A. members in Victoria was held
on Friday evening, Oct. 4 with S. N.
Neighbour, president, in the chair.
Churches were well represented.

Will H. Clay, in moving the adop-
tion of the report, made reference to
the survival of the Association in spite
of the predictions of many who believed
that such an altruistic movement was
impossible. For twenty years there
were many who had subscribed to the
common fund without any promise of
personal pecuniary advantage. The
number of original members had natu-
rally declined, but membership had
increased to 3,767. Thousands of
pounds had been distributed in relief
by interest free loans and gifts. In
one case, more than £1,500 had been
paid over a period of eleven years.

Believing that the general prosperity
of our country could not continue in-
definitely, reserves had been built up
which formed the security of members,
if and when a recession occurred. The
blessing of God had honored the faith
of those who were responsible for
originating the Association, and the
thousands who today still believed in
it. C.F.A. was to be found in 120
churches, and the 15 where it was not
represented would soon be included.

The meeting decided to celebrate
the 21st birthday in a fitting manner
and already plans are in hand. W. T.
Atkin presented the financial statement
and paid a warm tribute to the agents,
some of whom had served for the
twenty years. It was to the credit of
the movement that it had carried on
without flag-waving and undue ex-
citement. Members were cheerfully
meeting their promised payments,
being conscious of a fellowship in
suffering which they were privileged
to share in the interests of the less
fortunate members.

At the close of the meeting, members
joined in a social half-hour, and re-
freshments were served by Mrs. Lowrey
and helpers. During this time F. Fun-
ston, who had recently returned from
a visit to South Africa, made some
interesting disclosures. It is hoped that
Mr. Funston will be heard on this
matter in a meeting to be arranged.
Thanks to God was expressed by W.
W. Saunders, Associate Secretary, and
the chairman closed with the bene-
diction.—W.H.C.

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India-Pakistan Flood Relief

The Inter-Church Aid Commission has received the following cable from the Geneva office of the World Council of Churches: "DEEPLY GRATEFUL £250 PAKISTAN INDIAN EMERGENCY NEEDS URGENT HOPEFUL AUSTRALIA RAISING £1,000." It was followed by a letter asking for 5,000 blankets.

The Annual Meeting of the Commission has written to the Prime Minister commending the Federal Government's reported donation of £10,000 to India and £10,000 to Pakistan and urging further help while the tragic need continues.

A further urgent letter has been received from the Pakistan Relief Centre of Lahore. The sun-dried mud brick houses of nearly 6,000 villages disintegrated before the flood which swept away grain storages and the debris of houses, furniture and bedding, and destroyed canals. 200 were drowned in one village. Christian centres at once went into action and used all the resources at their disposal.

Some 3 million Pakistanis and 45 million Indians have been involved in the worst floods in history.

Funds are urgently needed for medicines to prevent epidemics and to treat sufferers from exposure and snake bite, for food, clothing and bedding. In the absence of any public appeals, donations sent to Inter-Church Aid, 37 Swanston-st., Melbourne, will be forwarded through the National Christian Councils of India and Pakistan, for use without regard to race or creed.

Further information may be obtained from or donations sent to Frank Byatt, Inter-Church Aid Office, 37 Swanston-st., Melbourne, C.I., C5033.

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