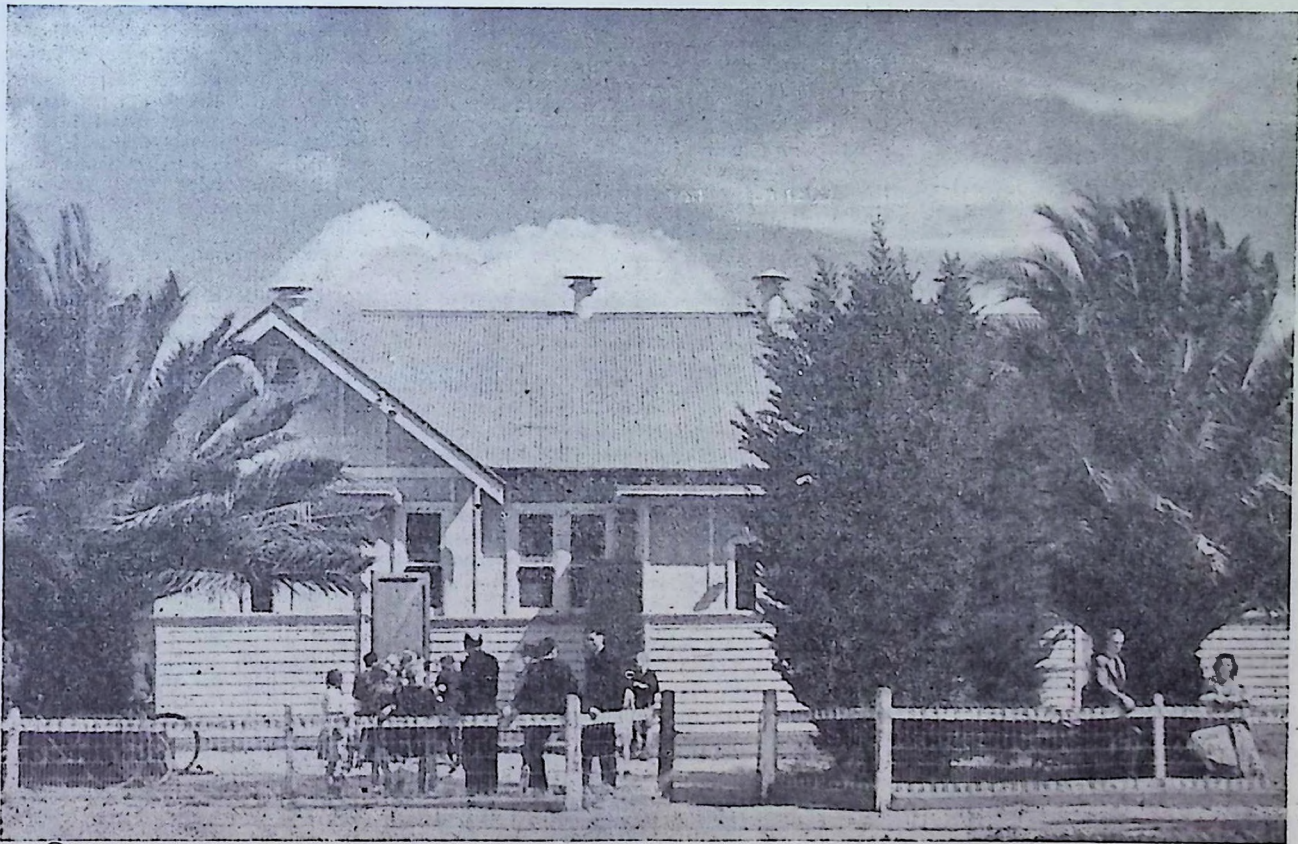


woolley

# The Australian Christian

National Weekly Representing Churches of Christ



## The Country Church

*It stands amid the sheltering trees,  
Where thrush and blackbird sing:  
A sanctuary where nature's peace  
Rests on uncertain wing.*

*The rough wood walls are grey with age;  
Untouched by modern art.  
Beneath its austere beauty beats  
A warm and living heart.*

*It is the house of God to those  
Who cross the threshold o'er.  
And hearts set free from fretting fears  
In silent worship soar.*

*And peace on brooding wing doth brush  
The heads bowed low in prayer;  
The benediction of the hour  
Which men with God may share.*

*—Helen Cooper, adapted.*



# The Church at Work in a Divided World

## GERMANY

### Thanks from Girls

**EVANGELICAL** Lutheran Church of Bavaria is maintaining, in Prackenfels, near Altort, a home for 34 German girls, mainly orphaned refugees, who are being trained there for the occupations they will eventually be taking up. An American Christian youth worker in Bavaria recently spoke to these girls, in the course of a visit he paid to their home, on Christian work being done to-day all over the world. Their gratitude for a sewing machine with which he presented them is expressed in a letter from them to the World Council of Churches, Geneva:

"We know that you in Geneva are wondering how you can help all the Christians in the world. You helped us in Germany . . . and gave us back our courage to live. In an organisation like yours, you plan and help a lot, but you do not hear or see much of the effects of your help and the joy.

"Now, we wish to thank you for all your work and help, and to express to you our unity with you and all Christians through our common Jesus Christ. Therefore we are sending you two golden angels which are used to decorate Christmas trees in Germany."

## CHINA

### Financial Difficulties

**CHINA'S** Christian institutions are in serious financial straits, according to a report received in Boston, Mass., from missionaries of the Congregational Christian churches in Fukien Province. A letter to the board of foreign missions of this church attributes these money difficulties first and foremost to the fact that "under the new regime all sections of the population are having to tighten their belts as a result of heavier taxation and reduced incomes."

This means that church members are less able to give to their churches; parents are unable to pay school fees, and the sick cannot pay toward hospitalisation. Thus the resources of these institutions are greatly reduced while at the same time they are trying to make available to the poor free tuition and hospitalisation.

Communism, the message continued, presents to Christianity in China the greatest challenge it has had since the days of the first missionaries. The church in China stands to-day more conspicuously than ever before for what we Christians believe to be the truth for the world. For us to stop upholding the Chinese churches in this hour of their great need would be to raise grave doubts in their midst as to the sincerity of our faith and the truth of our gospel of a universal church.

The missionaries' letter gives a plain answer to the question as to whether the presence of foreign missionaries in China is desired:

"The hope is repeatedly expressed that all missionaries who possibly can do so will remain to work with the Chinese church in this new era."

## ISRAEL

### Back to the Soil

**ISRAEL** has gone back to the land for its salvation. Mr. Hindus says that 125,000 acres of swamps and marshes have been reclaimed, and that new breeds of cows, goats and hens are being used by the Jewish settlers. Out of barren hillsides and stony valleys small farms are producing corn, sunflowers for oil, and get three crops a year of garden produce. "We are educated people here—we can learn fast," said one farmer to Mr. Hindus.

That, perhaps, is the secret of the new Israel. Here is a land of intelligence, initiative and

enthusiasm which, if it can learn to live happily with its neighbors, may become a leader among the small nations.

Undoubtedly Israel is beginning in the right way by laying foundations among the children. The tragic tale of Jewry in Europe is being redeemed by the lively and vigorous new people growing up on the historic soil of Palestine. What Israel is now attempting is not simply to redress old wrong, but to rebuild a nation which shall be free itself and a stimulus to the life of the Middle East.

## INDIA

### Church of South India

**CHURCH** of South India, which was inaugurated in 1947, held its second synod in Madras, from Jan. 7 to 11. There were visitors from the churches and missionary societies of Australia, Great Britain, Denmark, Germany and Sweden. Dr. W. A. Visser 't Hooft represented the World Council of Churches, and preached the sermon at the service in Madras Cathedral. Prof. Dr. Emil Brunner (Switzerland), who is on a lecture tour in Asia under auspices of the Y.M.C.A., also addressed synod.

In his opening address, the moderator, Bishop Hollis, said that the formation of the church of South India has caused a healthy disquiet. It was not the church of South India which should be considered as an anomaly, but the divided churches. The presence of guests from many churches and the recent visit of the bishop of Chichester and the presiding bishop of the Anglican church in Japan were signs of the great interest with which the development of the C.S.I. was being followed.

The synod gave much attention to its relationships with other churches. A detailed answer to the questions formulated by the Lambeth Conference (conference of the bishops of the Anglican communion all over the world which met in London in 1948) was unanimously adopted.

The union committee reported on conversations which are taking place with the Lutheran and Baptist churches. It was reported that the "Ceylon Scheme" for church union in Ceylon, in which the Jaffna diocese is involved, will now be considered by the various dioceses and the organs of the churches in Ceylon, but that it will take at least six years before final action can be taken.

A new liturgy for the celebration of the Lord's Supper, based on the liturgical traditions of the "parent communions," was accepted for optional use.

Bishop Hollis, of Madras, was re-elected as moderator. On the occasion of his return to England, the synod expressed its deep gratitude to J. S. M. Hooper, who has been one of the pioneers of church unity in South India, and has rendered unique services during the period of formation of the new church.

## GREAT BRITAIN

### How Heathen is Oxford?

**A MISSION** to the university was organised in Oxford, under the general supervision of the Bishop of Bristol, from Jan. 28 to Feb. 5. People still talk of the evangelistic campaign among students carried out in 1931 by the late Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Temple, which, in the words of the Bishop of Southwell, "stopped the rot in the Christian life of postwar Oxford." Valuable traces were also left by the evangelistic week led by Bishop Stephen Neill.

In view of the mission the students' paper,

"Isis," has sought to answer the question as to just how heathen Oxford is to-day. An inquiry instituted on this point revealed that the Christian faith in Oxford is "very evidently more lively than it is almost anywhere else in the country." One indication of this is the growing number of communicants. "One college chaplain, who has kept records of service over the last sixteen years, stated that, on every Sunday in the two years 1947-49, there were more communicants than on any Sunday in the years 1937-39."

In another college more than one-quarter of the students belong to the Student Christian Movement. A group of 70 students from various colleges meets daily for prayer. Some religious societies are now meeting every day, and a census has shown that about one in every seven undergraduates is a member of a specifically religious society.

This principle of readiness for Christian ideas and conduct, and the obvious demand for doctrinal teaching of a definite kind, do not, of course, apply to all the colleges. "Some appear to be in a careless and amorphous state. Others are buzzing with life because they have 'a chaplain who is doing a first-rate job,' or because an organised Christian fellowship is drawing people together, while some are helped by dons of a truly Christian influence.

On the intellectual level there is the lively "Christian Faculty Group in History." On the philosophical level there is the club "The Socratic." On the political side there is the "Christian Socialist Movement" and its Conservative counterpart. The movement, "Christian Action," started in 1946, has also had considerable influence.

And what results are expected from the mission to the university? "That it could do some drastic work amongst Christians in unfreezing some of the merely conventional types, and in cooling down some of the more pathetic emotionalists. Thinking people are finding in Christ the only sure basis in our present universal uncertainty."

## AUSTRALIA

### Essay Contest

**THE** 1950 essay contest, conducted by the United Nations, is on the subject: "Has the rule of unanimity ('The Veto') prevented the United Nations from functioning in the political and security field?"

Australians between the ages of 20-35 years are eligible for the contest which is in the hands of the Australian national committee for the U.N. essay contest. This committee is composed of representatives of the United Nations Information Centre, the Australian National Committee for the United Nations, and the United Nations Association, and is chaired by H. L. McLoskey, Parliamentary Librarian, New South Wales.

The Australian contest closes on April 30 to enable judging to be completed in this country, and the best essays to be forwarded to Lake Success for adjudication by the International Jury, by June 1.

The Australian committee is offering prizes of £15/15/., £10/10/., and £5/5/., for the best three essays submitted in this country, and these will then compete in the international contest, where ten prizes are offered, each entitling the winner to a free trip to Lake Success for a month's study of a particular activity of the United Nations. As funds are provided by the United Nations, Australian contestants will not be affected by the dollar shortage.

Conditions of the Australian contest are available from the Australian National Committee for the United Nations Victorian Division, Mitchell House, cnr. Lonsdale and Elizabeth-sts., Melbourne, C.1.



# Why Men Crucified Christ

**T**HE Jews who crucified Jesus were sincere in their religious beliefs. Some were fanatical. Unfortunately they had allowed what they wanted to believe color their faith. This weakness in human nature must be watched, lest it lead us to errors of living, even as it affected the Jews.

The Jew identified material prosperity with religion. They believed that God prospered the good man and gave him an abundance of good things. The evil man would fall into trouble, sooner or later, they taught. By false logic they then proceeded to argue that a prosperous man must be good, and a poor person evil. This was the method followed in the arguments advanced by the so-called friends of Job. Because Job was poor and sick, and had fallen from prosperity, he had committed evil. Let Job repent, they declared, and God would grant him material prosperity.

**W**HEN the Jews looked forward to the future, they believed the day would come when material prosperity would surround them. The greatness of the kingdom of David would be overshadowed by an earthly kingdom of superb glory. The material selfishness of the Jew was expressed in those hopes of an earthly kingdom, ruled over by the son of David. In the light of that material hope they read and interpreted all references to the coming Messiah, as the fulfilment of this earthly dream.

When Christ came, claiming to be the Jewish Messiah, he shocked those materialists. The insignificance of the place of his childhood, Nazareth, did not fit into the vision of a prosperous ruler. Jesus could not be the Messiah because he was from Nazareth; nothing good came out of that village.

Then the attitude of this Jesus to material wealth contradicted their hopes. He did not value what men sought with such passion. He did not lay up treasure on earth. While foxes had holes and the birds had nests, the Son of man had nowhere to lay his head. He taught that his followers must seek, not the value in gold like the heathen, but the spiritual wealth in God's kingdom. In such a kingdom a man is wealthy if he serves his fellows humbly. The poor man is he who is weighed down by the cares and worries of material prosperity. This picture of a kingdom in which the most important person is the one who is the slave of his brethren, clashed with the ideas of the material-minded Jew.

**J**ESUS challenged their viewpoint by saying, "You people search the scriptures, and in them you think you have eternal life, but if you really understood those teachings and followed their truths, you would believe on me; for they testify of me." It is rather startling to be told that people may read the Bible with zeal and yet fail to find the central truth in it. The Jews had read the Bible and had failed to find the picture of the real Messiah. They had allowed pre-conceived ideas, theories, desires and material hopes to blind their mind. How easy it is to make scripture fit some ready-made plan, some humanly designed scheme, some material hope! The warning Jesus gave to the Jews ought to make us careful to allow the scripture speak to us, as they were designed by God to do, and not as we should like them.

When we consider the false impressions these Jews gained from their reading of the Bible, we can understand how genuinely religious men reacted to the claims of Jesus. He did not fit their picture of what the Messiah ought to be, therefore, they argued, he is a blasphemer, or an imposter. According to those scriptures they had misinterpreted, a blasphemer must be put to death. The steps from a material view of life, from a false view of man's end, and the purpose for which he was made, led the Jews to deny Jesus and then to crucify him. Their

## EDITORIAL



spiritual ignorance and blindness caused them to put to death God's Son, the Saviour of the world. Jesus knew this, and cried from the cross, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

**F**ROM what Jesus said, the tragedy of the cross was basically ignorance. The men who ought to have known what God spoke through the prophets failed to understand the truth. Their error was caused by their failure to read the Bible with open minds. They were materialistic, selfish men at heart, and they could not see the truth, because they were blind to the real purpose of life.

Do not let us condemn the Jew too hastily. How many wear the name of Christ and dare not live and serve as he did? The society in which we live still measures success by the salary a man receives. Churches and departments think of progress in terms of financial balance sheets. For many advance in the kingdom of God is related to material well-being. Are we not as blind to Christ's way of life, even as the Jews were? If Jesus were here to-day, would he escape from persecution and death at the hands of those who name him as Lord? If this were to be answered in the light of the modern church, man's attitude to material possessions and wealth, we should find it difficult to give a definite no.

**T**HE way of life for which Christ died is not overrun with travellers: the truth still is that few find it. The period of Easter gives us an opportunity to compare our failures with Christ's successes. At this time of the year we are reminded how futile life can be for those who heap up for themselves treasure on earth, denying the spirit of Christ to do so. The words of Jesus ring out again, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you."



## Church Extension Plans

**W**ITH new areas opening and industries spreading into country areas, churches must seize the opportunities to erect buildings in important centres. While building restrictions prevent a full-scale programme being undertaken now, the time will come when churches will be permitted to carry out their plans. We do not know when that opportunity will come, but there will be such a rush to meet the demands then that lack of money may hinder progress. If to-day we can lay aside large sums for a future building programme, we shall be wise stewards.

The tendency toward rising costs and the desire to erect substantial buildings indicate that the building of chapels in the future will require more funds than previously. The plea for worthy offerings to assist churches in their building projects, is commendable.

No doubt the ultimate goal of Church Extension Committee is to raise enough capital to assist weak causes secure money free of interest. Over the years many churches have been overburdened by the interest load. The Victorian Church Extension Department has made a valuable contribution to many churches, by reducing their interest rate.

We are glad to note that churches are being helped to appreciate the wisdom of building according to plans that have been tested over the years. Because of the lack of experience in building chapels, some brethren have not gained the best results from their building programme. The more recently built chapels in Victoria show the results of the help given by the Church Extension Department.



The reality of our faith is best revealed by what we are and what we do in the dark experiences of life.

# The Faith That Wins

by T. V. Weir, of Warrnambool, Vic.

THIS is a day that demands great faith. The circumstances in which we live are such that we must be prepared to face all that life can muster against us, and only those whose faith is set in the eternal verities will be prepared to go on to victory. People with such faith have been the bulwarks of the church down through the ages. They have met difficulties, and triumphed over them; they have opened the way for more fearful saints to walk the road of devoted service after them. The stories of their endurance and victory have been a source of encouragement to those who followed.

These heroes of faith never sought the difficult situations in which they found themselves. When they set out to serve God, they prayed that their lives might be lived in happiness, security and peace; but they determined to live their lives for God whether life smiled or frowned on them. They believed that nothing could really defeat them or their purpose while they remained faithful to their Lord.

HAVE we such a faith as that? We shall need it if we are to win the victory in the coming days. Sometimes we shall need a quiet desperation of faith which will cause us to share the feelings of Queen Esther. With no need to identify herself with her people, with no driving force save her own conscience, she went up to the king in faith to plead for the Jewish people, saying within herself, "If I perish, I perish." Or the three companions of Daniel. "Our God will deliver us—but if not, we shall not serve thy gods."

One has suggested that there are two kinds of faith, a "Palm Sunday" faith and a Gethsemane faith. The former is the kind of faith that lives among the flowers of Galilee and the applause of the triumphal entry, but that vanishes before the stern testing times of life; the other is the faith that wins, and sets its trust in God even when the worst comes.

Scriptures tell us about these two faiths. There is the faith of Jacob. "If God will be with me, and will keep me in the way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, so that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the Lord be my God." This is fair-weather faith, bargaining with God, promising to have faith as long as all goes well. In any Gethsemane it collapses.

The other faith begins, not with "if" but with "though."

"Though he slay me, yet will I trust him."

"Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me."

THE reality of our faith is best revealed by what we are and what we do in the dark experiences of life. During the period of the Civil War in England, when conditions were anything but favorable for the extension of the religious life of the country, a church building was erected. On it there was placed a memorial tablet bearing these words: "In the year 1653, when all things sacred throughout the nation were either demolished or profaned, Sir Robert Shirley, baronet, founded this church, whose singular praise it is to have done the best things in the worst times, and hoped them in the most calamitous." As it takes the night to reveal the full beauty of the stars, so it often takes the worst times in our lives to reveal our Christian character and the reality of our faith. None of us is free from untoward experiences in life. Sorrow comes unbidden, and sickness lays its hand on almost all of us. When these things come, let us be possessed of such a faith that we shall rise triumphant, because we have the strength and the presence of the Lord with

us. Then our fellow men and women shall see one of the mysteries of life—the success of failure. For it is out of our apparent failures; our weakness, our abandonment that the finest of victories come. Every time we give glory to the Lord Jesus, we celebrate the success of apparent failure. For the Lord, whose family did not understand him, whose nation rejected him and crucified him, is, to-day, honored and worshipped by millions, because, in the hour when he might have surrendered to fear and despair, he said, "If it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt." In those words Jesus revealed that he belonged, not to himself, but to the will of God in faith. Through that faith he won through to victory, as we shall also do.

WHEN Captain Scott lay dying in the snowy wastes of the Antarctic, he was a defeated man. Amundsen had beaten him in the race to the South Pole; he had led his men to death; in the eyes of the world he was a failure. Yet to-day men do not remember Scott's failure. They remember that he wrote, "I do not regret

# Indian Impressions

Dr. A. J. Saunders concludes his recollections of great personalities he has met.

DURING my long years in India, covering perhaps the most eventful period in modern Indian history, the two outstanding Indian nationalists were Mohandas K. Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore. It was my good fortune to have come into personal contact with both, to have read their writings, and to have heard them lecture. Mr. Gandhi was a man of two strong personalities; these dominated his whole life and action. As a nationalist he gave himself in politics to the attainment of Swaraj or freedom and self-government; as a religious and social reformer he spent himself in seeking religious toleration, in the removal of untouchability, and the raising of the standard of living of the poor peasants and outcastes. I always thought he regarded his role as a reformer his main purpose. He lived what he preached, believing that actions and life are far more important than words.

Come with me to the People's Park in Madura, South India. A bamboo pundal with thatch roof had been erected in which there was a raised platform, and on which had been placed a large cushion; there were flags and colored decorations; everything was neat and simple. The people came in hundreds and thousands, and were seated in rows upon the ground in front of the pundal. A hush steals over the large crowd as a car drives up to the rear of the pundal; a small man in a simple dhoti with a scarf thrown over his left shoulder mounts the platform, takes his seat on the cushion, crosses his legs, and assumes the appearance of the traditional Buddha.

Gandhiji began to speak in a low, clear voice, using excellent English; his sentences were rendered into Tamil by an interpreter standing nearby. What did he talk about? The simple life. As all the world knows, Gandhiji was the apostle and the example of the simple life for Indians. He spoke of "Khadi"—Indian-made cloth, of giving employment to millions of poor peasant people throughout the country, and as

this journey. We took risks; we knew that we took them; things have come out against us, and therefore we have no cause for complaint, but bow to the will of God, determined still to do our best to the end." So, "if it be possible, let us succeed, nevertheless . . ."

Scott and his men had a faith which undergirded their lives in the time of strain and prevented them from collapsing.

A recent suicide left a note reading, "A man has to be made of steel to endure nowadays." But a man doesn't have to be made of steel. It is enough if he be full of loyalty to Jesus Christ, of overwhelming devotion to God, and a determination that, whatever evil things may come, he will resist and overcome them by faith in the power and love of God. With them we cannot fail.

A lifeboat crew on an English coast was called upon to go to the rescue of a stricken ship. One member of the crew said, "Sir, the wind is offshore and the tide is running out. We can go out, but what good will it do? Against the wind and the tide we cannot come back." The captain replied, "Launch the boat. We have to go out. We don't have to come back." But if we live in Christ we shall both launch out into the deeps of life, and we shall return safely. If we determine to follow him in faith, then, come what may, life will never overwhelm us. We may find life to our liking; we may pray that we shall, but, even if we do not, we shall not give in.

"If it be possible, . . . nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt."

the cure of much of India's poverty. The symbol which he used of the simple life was the Charka, or spinning-wheel, standing for self-help. It was in that spirit that Swadeshi was born, a spiritual, as well as a material, Swadeshi. He said: "Modern civilisation is chiefly materialistic, as ours is chiefly spiritual."

I have heard Mr. Gandhi since, but not with the same emotional reaction as on that first occasion. I believe that Gandhiji was a Hindu saint—a Mahatma; he was a high-souled, sincere man, a reformer working for the uplift and good of his people, and his fine idealism came from the religion which he followed and lived, and which to him was a very real thing.

I close with a brief reference to and memory of India's national poet, Rabindranath Tagore. C. F. Andrews is not alone in believing that Rabindranath Tagore was the greatest modern Indian man of letters of his generation. He gained a Nobel prize. I have had the unique privilege of meeting and hearing him several times. To hear him lecture and recite some of his poems was an experience never to be forgotten. I will give an example of one of his well-known pieces; this shows his religious background and his forward-looking and progressive philosophy of life:

"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;  
Where knowledge is free;  
Where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls;  
Where words come out from the depth of truth;  
Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;  
Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;  
But where the mind is led forward by thee into  
Ever widening thought and action—  
Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake."

Here are two choice pieces from Gitanjali which really means Love Offerings:

(Concluded on page 113)

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

March 14, 1950

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# Overseas News and Views

Late Douglas E. Pittman

THE editor's tribute in "The Australian Christian" to the life and work of a worthy brother is fully endorsed by the Federal F.M. Board. We feel, however, that we must add our word from the standpoint of the board and the missionaries, past and present.

His interest in overseas work goes back to the commencement of our mission. After the passing of his late father, Douglas Pittman took an even keener interest in the work of the Chinese church in Melbourne, and despite his quiet, unassuming manner, his knowledge of our overseas work was phenomenal. No group will mourn his passing and feel the loss more than the Victorian F.M. committee. With missionaries on the field he was in constant touch because of help that could be given in practical affairs.

His knowledge of the brotherhood and his link with the "Austral" helped the conference departments considerably in connection with publication work. We praise God for his faithful work over the years, and cherish the memory of a beloved brother in the Lord.



The Indian field and the Federal Board have expressed their deep appreciation to Sister Lynda Foreman for her work and worth to India. Here Miss Foreman is seen with some of the Indian nursing sisters at Dhond.

## Mr. Finlayson's Retirement

The retirement of R. J. Finlayson, board member, is a definite loss to the board and the brotherhood. After the death of W. Morrow in 1934, Mr. Finlayson was elected to the board. Over the years his sound business judgment and sympathetic interest in the work, and his personal regard for the missionaries themselves were factors that made his service of real and lasting worth.

Failing health and distance from the city, making night attendance difficult, made necessary his severance from the active work of the board. For several years the board has met in the city office of R. J. Finlayson Ltd., and provision has been made for the board to continue their meetings as heretofore. With deep regret the board accepted the resignation of our brother, recorded their deep appreciation of his work, and prayed that God would give him a measure of health and strength in future days. The board feel they still have a vital link with our brother because of his private room still being available for meetings.

## Sister Lynda Foreman

In March, 1949, Miss Foreman returned from India for health reasons. Since that time she has been under medical treatment, and though her health has improved, our medical advisers state it would not be wise for her to return to India. This news has caused Miss Foreman great disappointment; but from the commencement of her illness she had cast her-

self on the will of God, and there she confidently abides.

Though Miss Foreman will not return to India, the doctors advise that she may undertake some light duties, and already she has served in a Victorian hospital. For climatic reasons, it is likely that Miss Foreman will go to South Australia for a period, after the Victorian conference.

Our sister has been the living link of the Victorian Women's Mission Bands for several years, and whilst recording our appreciation and thanks to Miss Foreman on behalf of the brotherhood for her splendid service to India, and especially for her work at Dhond hospital, we also pay tribute to the mission bands for their loyal support over the years, and for their deep, personal interest in Miss Foreman and her work.

## Miss Elsie Caldicott

The board wish to make it clear that Miss Elsie Caldicott, on her return to Australia in December, 1948, was retired on health grounds, and if Miss Caldicott has felt led to return to India and work wherever or at whatever she feels led, this has the blessing of the board, and we also feel, of the brotherhood whom she represented for over thirty-two years.

The brotherhood, however, should know that

under "conditions of service" Miss Caldicott is eligible for retiring allowance, and this is being sent to her monthly through our Indian treasurer.

We feel that whatever work Miss Caldicott does, she will glorify her Lord and use whatever strength she has to serve him.

## Departures for Islands

Miss Daisy Henderson, newly-appointed missionary to Aoba, is planned to leave Sydney by the "Morinda" on March 20. It will encourage our missionaries to know she can leave immediately, because of Miss Kennedy's return to Australia. Latest reports of Miss Kennedy state she is progressing favorably.

Mr. and Mrs. McLean, parents of Ron McLean (Aoba) also plan to leave on the same steamer as Miss Henderson. Their stay will be for several months. Mr. McLean has promised to assist in the erection of new dormitories for the new training school, and if a ready-cut house can be shipped for Pentecost, will help in its erection. Our Island work has been fortunate in having practical Christian workers going down to help in the work of the Lord.

This department is conducted by A. Anderson, secretary of our Overseas Mission Board, 261 Magill-rd., Tranmere, S.A. M.O.'s should be made payable at Adelaide.

# News of the British Churches

G. J. Hammond

WHEN the Overdale college re-union was held last October, Prof. H. H. Rowley, of Manchester University, delivered the Joseph Smith memorial lecture. His theme was, "The Authority of the Bible," and his treatment is a profound discussion of the question, making a great contribution. The lecture has been published.

Overdale college students are to conduct, for the third successive year, vacation crusades. Two teams of four students will visit Yorkshire and Lancashire. The students' crusade has been linked with the national crusade.

The Social Questions Committee has begun an information service for the churches. A panel of experts will deal with questions on politics, international affairs, child welfare, drink and gambling, etc. Leaders of study groups and youth organisations are being urged to make use of the service.

Focus for March for all the churches is upon the work and needs of the Home Missions Committee, with March 5 as H.M. Sunday. Committee is directly responsible for fifteen ministers

and three H.M. sisters. The target for the month is set at £1150.

Missionary committee, facing a heavy deficit, is cheered by news from stations in India and Africa. In India a new venture will be undertaken next year. A visit has been paid to the capital of the adjoining State, Sarguja, where preaching was previously forbidden, and arrangements have been made for starting a new work there. From Africa comes the news that E. Gray, senior missionary, has been appointed secretary and treasurer of the Nyasaland Christian Council. Miss Jean Tinto has recently arrived home on furlough from that station, and will begin deputation work in the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Carmichael, of Leicester, have reached home, after visiting Australia.

## INDIAN IMPRESSIONS

(Concluded from page 112)

"I come out alone on my way to my tryst,  
But who is this that follows me in the silent dark?

I move aside to avoid his presence, but I  
escape him not.

He makes the dust rise from the earth with  
his swagger,  
He adds his loud voice to every word that I  
utter.

Who is he? He is my own little self, my Lord;  
He knows no shame;  
But I am ashamed to come to thy door in his  
company."

"This is my prayer to thee, my Lord—  
Strike, strike at the root of penury in my heart.  
Give me the strength lightly to bear my joys  
and my sorrows.

Give me the strength to make my life fruitful  
in service.

Give me the strength never to disown the poor,  
or bend the knee before insolent might.  
Give me the strength to raise my mind above  
daily trifles.

And give me the strength to surrender my  
strength to thy will with love."

## EASTER HYMN

Seen by many, ere appearing  
At that supper tense and grave,  
Where, to timid men and fearing,  
He the great commission gave.

Blessed hope; the promise given  
To those men of Galilee;  
Watching Christ's ascent to heaven,  
Near to his loved Bethany,

Hallelujah! tell the story—  
That angelic message plain—  
"As the Lord ascends to glory,  
Likewise he'll return again."

Gardiner. —A. Lee-Archer.



# COMMONWEALTH ROUND-UP

## HERE AND THERE

**M**ESSRS. Hinrichsen-Christensen commenced a mission at Bordertown, S.A., on Mar. 5; splendid meetings.—Curtis."

Owing to the public holiday in Victoria on March 13, we had to close paper on Friday, March 10. This will account for several news items received late not appearing in this issue.

If there are brethren who have posters for a "Wayside Pulpit," and are willing to supply same to a church able to make effective use of them, we suggest a communication be sent to Mr. I. J. Chivell, 131 Deakin-ave., Mildura, Vic.

Mrs. E. B. Grigg, of St. Arnaud, Vic., writes: "I noticed the names of some who had been taking 'The Australian Christian' for 50 years. I, too, can claim that record. As Miss E. B. Simons, at Ascot Vale church, I received it through their agent. Then, as Mrs. J. Grigg, I was over in Halidon, S.A., where it was sent to me. I came to live at St. Arnaud 28 years ago, where I still receive this wonderful church paper, and love reading every item. When I have finished reading it I pass it on to others."

On Sunday, March 26, the A.B.C. will programme the celebrated London school, Mill Hill. The headmaster, fairly recently appointed, is Dr. J. S. Whale. He is the author of a number of important books. Mill Hill goes back in its history to 1660, when it arose as a private Nonconformist school during the period of the persecution of the Puritans following the restoration. It is now open to members of all religious bodies, but is run on free church lines. This school service has been broadcast for an Australian audience.

At Forestville, S.A., on Feb. 12, a large congregation at evening service witnessed unveiling of a new reading desk, which was beautifully made and equipped with a large copy of God's Word, and which was presented to the church by Mr. Banfield, as a thank offering for life and witness of his late wife (nee Follett) who died last June. Special reference was made by W. A. Russell, who conducted service, to her life of devoted service for her Lord. Her favorite hymn, "Jesus, Lover of my Soul," was beautifully sung by Mrs. Bowden, and choir sang "King of Kings." Mr. Banfield read scripture lesson. Service was an inspiration. Our late sister will be remembered as an organist and teacher of music. Albert Glastonbury, conductor of the South Australian Churches of Christ Choral Association Choir, was one of her pupils.

The Sunday Christian Observance Council has protested to the chairman of the Legacy Sports Day Fund for planning to hold a sports day on the St. Kilda Cricket Ground. The council wrote: "Representing, as we do, the views of the great majority of church people throughout the State, we regard it as most unfortunate that a Sunday should be chosen for the carnival, as the use of the Christian Sunday for such a purpose: Hurts a strong, capable and influential section of the community. Causes much unnecessary labor on a day which is especially set apart for rest and worship. Disturbs the home and family life of many well-wishers who, in a more direct manner, already do their part to aid Legacy. Causes nervous tension and much mental pre-occupation amongst all concerned. Distracts organisers, because they must urge participants against their will, and in doing so test their sportsmanship unfairly and falsely. Further—the preparations and events cannot be limited to Sunday afternoon only, but must necessarily involve the whole day. In principle, this Sunday carnival is definitely and strongly objected to by a most influential and responsible number of people, who hold that such an effort should take place on some day in the week other than a Sunday."

At the recent convention on Australian citizenship, held in Canberra, stress was laid on the difficulty of new Australian widows, unmarried mothers and widowers with children in obtaining employment where they also could give attention to the children. Ordinary lodging houses cannot accept responsibility whilst the breadwinner is at work. They have no relatives in Australia to help them out. It was felt that there must be a number of jobs available in domestic service and on farms, where such could work and, at the same time, care for their children. Readers will please consider the need in the light of Christian and humanitarian principles, and where such employment is possible, will please apply to the secretary of the Federal Inter-Church Migration Committee, St. Paul's Cathedral Buildings, Flinders-lane, Melbourne, C.I.



The directors of The Austral Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd. have appointed W. R. Hibbert manager of the company. Mr. Hibbert is well known in Australia and New Zealand. He has shown keen interest in the development of Christian literature. During recent months he has been associated with the managerial and financial side of the firm, and will now be responsible for such duties. We wish for him many years of happy service with the company.



## Stewardship Campaign in S.A.

**S**OUTH AUSTRALIAN conference of 1949 asked a crusade committee to inaugurate a stewardship campaign in churches during 1950. Campaign has been started, and already preachers have been called together to discuss their side of special teaching, and on Feb. 20 a conference of representatives from suburban and many country churches met for tea, worship and a period of planning. Three main efforts have been suggested: (1) Special stewardship teaching: This to take place over the whole year in our churches and youth groups. (2) Stewardship month in June: All churches to be asked to observe the month of June as stewardship month. A booklet will be issued to each member providing the basis for stewardship addresses on Sunday mornings and evenings. (3) A stewardship campaign in every church: It is felt that true stewardship must rest back on a sound doctrinal teaching.—G. R. Stirling.

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## World of Books

### "THE GATEWAY TO THE SUNDAY SCHOOL"

**A** NEW book, "A Gateway to the Sunday School," for elementary workers in Sunday schools, is now available from The Austral Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., at 3/6, plus 1½d. postage. Books to aid teachers should grow out of experience. This is such a book, and the experience has been gained under Australian conditions. Both authors are qualified to deal with teaching problems. Miss Sturgess is deputy-headmistress of an infants' demonstration school, Miss Dunkley was trained for infants' work, and has had many years of teaching experience. Both have been actively engaged in Sunday school teaching as well as in other forms of Christian work. Anna C. Hogg, Teachers' College, Sydney, in her foreword says, "Teachers who would work effectively with little children in our Sunday schools will gain much insight and much profit from a close study of this book." The following titles of chapters indicate that authors have set their work out in a charming style: "Where are you going my pretty maid?", "Jack and Jill," "Dry enough," "I'll tell you a story," "Shoes and ships," "Beating time," "Follow my leader," "Nearly new," "Not much more," "Now I am six," "All in together," and "Here is the church."—W.R.H.

"Mark These Men" by E. J. Sidlow Baxter is a volume of practical studies in striking aspects of certain Bible characters, and were first given as addresses by author to his congregation, at Charlotte Baptist Chapel, Edinburgh. One cannot but be impressed with the author's belief in the Bible as the Word of God, a faith which he adequately substantiates in these analytical, freely written and not un scholarly studies. One is also impressed with the refreshingly new and clear outlines of these sermons, all of which are aptly illustrated so that their reading is a pleasure. What is always a distinct advantage in such books is the printing of the scripture passages from which the studies are taken. In this book they are called "Scripture Snapshots." There are thirteen characters discussed, eight being from the Old Testament and five from the New. We can heartily recommend the reading of this book of 192 pages and as one to find a place on every preacher's book-shelves. Our copy is from the publishers, Marshall, Morgan and Scott. The Austral Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd. will accept orders for this book at the Australian price of 14/9, and fulfil them immediately stocks come to hand.—W.J.T.

"Letters to Young Churches," by J. B. Phillips is a recent translation of the New Testament epistles. Someone will ejaculate: "What! another translation; surely we have sufficient!" But wait until you dip into this book, and I suggest you will give it a prominent place among your daily companions. I can recall my purchase of Rotherham's translation of the whole Bible, after I met the old veteran about 50 years ago, and I owe a debt to Dr. James Moffatt and Dr. R. F. Weymouth, but somehow this latest presentation of the epistles has spoken in more challenging tones to my heart. There is a brief introduction by C. S. Lewis, but the translator's preface is a notable contribution. The book itself manifests Mr. Phillip's gift for the expression of the apostles' letters in phrases that make their thoughts come to life; however, I trust all our ministers and every one in our ranks who has an appetite for these words of life will soon test this book for themselves. Maybe some birthday gifts may follow this review, but why wait till then? The Austral Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd. are able to supply copies at 12/3, plus postage, 6d.—J. A. Wilkie.





## Victoria

**Newmarket.**—On Feb. 26 church anniversary services were held. G. T. Black presided and Dr. Kemp preached at 11 a.m. At 3 p.m. P.S.A. service was held, when E. L. Williams gave helpful address. Miss D. Clark and D. Hancock were soloists. At 7 p.m. R. McKenzie spoke, and Mrs. McKenzie and Miss D. Clark sang a duet. A splendid day of fellowship was spent with members and friends.

**Footscray.**—Attendances during February have been well maintained. Soloists at evening services have been Miss Estelle Gray, H. Easton and Mrs. A. Burns. Auxiliaries have made a good start for year. Mr. Hurren has commenced his fourth year with church. Women's Fellowship and Phi Betas combined to give a party to inmates of Kew cottages. On Mar. 5 a public installation of new officers of K.S.P. was conducted by F. Broussard, T. Warne and Mr. Prince, on behalf of State Chapter.

**Preston.**—Phyllis Paton died on Jan. 25. Mr. Searle conducted funeral services at chapel and Fawkner crematorium, Jan. 27, in presence of large congregations. There was a large array of beautiful floral tributes. Phyllis was an esteemed member of P.B.P. club. All auxiliaries have now resumed activity. Mr. Searle continues to render faithful service, which is much appreciated. Mr. and Mrs. Purton have been welcomed into fellowship on transfer from Yarrowonga. Mrs. Redden recently suffered bereavement through death of her sister. Sympathy of church is extended to her.

**Montrose.**—During college vacation, whilst student preacher, Mr. McCormick, was on holiday, services were taken on Jan. 29 by Mr. Aurisch, of Berwick; on Feb. 5 by H. Steele, of Croydon; and on Feb. 12 by Mr. Edwards, of Bayswater; these brethren gave excellent addresses. Church was pleased to renew fellowship with these brethren who were student preachers during college days. Mr. McCormick re-commenced ministry on Feb. 19; after a fine address a young man confessed Christ. There have been three additions by transfer; the work generally is bright. Sunday school held picnic on 4th, and is practising for anniversary.

**Bentleigh.**—Meetings are well attended and an excellent spirit prevailing. Mr. Armstrong addressed evening meeting of Feb. 26; Mr. Wiltshire addressed other meetings, including mid-week service, which maintains good attendances. W. W. Saunders, of Bambra-rd., spoke at kindergarten anniversary, holding children's interest. Mr. Keneley, who had an operation, is holidaying at Barwon Heads. Mr. Pelling is recovering slowly from an appendical operation. On evening of March 5 cricket team took meeting. I. Hands presided; Mr. R. Ratten gave an excellent address. Messrs. Thompson and Beddome sang a duet, whilst R. Watson read lesson.

**Ormond.**—On morning of Feb. 26, Mr. Sump-ton, of Gardenvale, was speaker, and in evening Phi Beta Pi club held installation service. Mrs. Ploog gave address. At conclusion of service Mr. Sump-ton baptised Miss Mary Buchanan. On morning of March 5, Miss Buchanan was received into fellowship. On March 4, girls of Phi Beta Pi club gained equal first with E. Kew in swimming competitions at city baths. On morning of Mar. 5 C. Gadge gave a thoughtful talk. Boys of K.S.P. arranged youth service for gospel service, Mar. 5, when clubs were on parade, W. W. McDowell being speaker. Young men, led by R. Alabaster, are tidying church grounds and repairing outbuildings.

**Geelong.**—On morning of Feb. 26, Miss Mary Rees, of World Evangelisation Crusade, was speaker. R. J. Anderson preached at evening service, W. Colman being soloist. On Feb. 22, a combined picnic of Mission Band and Ladies' Aid was held at Eastern Beach. Preparations are being made for S.S. anniversary and mission to be conducted by E. J. Miles, Moreland. Mar. 1, Ladies' Aid held annual meeting; all officers were re-elected. Mr. Anderson preached at morning service on March 5, and Mr. McDonald in evening. During last two Saturdays a successful tennis tournament has been held.

**East Doncaster.**—Harvest festival services were held on March 5. Mr. Alderson, of North Richmond, was present, amongst other visitors, and presided at Lord's Table, and Mr. Quirk, who serves church faithfully, gave an interesting sermon. At special afternoon service Mr. Buckingham outlined activities of Social Service Department. Mr. Burt, the new preacher at Doncaster, led in prayer. Brethren from Blackburn, Balwyn and Doncaster assisted with music and solos. Gifts of fruit, vegetables and groceries were forwarded to Oakleigh Guest Home. Church is grateful to eastern district officers' association for assistance received over past year.

**Cheltenham.**—Work is in great heart, and attendances are increasing. Bible school anniversary was a happy occasion, and interesting messages were brought by F. A. Youens, J. C. Cunningham and F. T. Morgan. Cricket team has made an excellent start in semi-final of local competition. The A tennis team has reached finals, without being defeated. At church annual meeting, all reports were excellent. V. D. Wallington was appointed as an elder, and R. Kemp and P. Payne deacons. On March 5, at gospel service, an auxiliaries' service was held. Miss June Raisbeck was immersed and after J. C. Cunningham's address a young lady made good confession.

**Carnegie.**—Two lads from Bible school made confession of faith at close of youth service, Feb. 26. Visitation evangelism was held from Feb. 21 to March 1, when teams went out contacting about 50 homes. Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Webb, from Flinders Park, S.A., were welcomed at social gathering on March 4. At worship service on 5th, special crusade effort was commenced; 107 were present, J. E. Webb speaking. 145 attended gospel service, when four young lads from Bible school were baptised by Mr. Coventry. Miss Dorothy Clark, of Box Hill, was soloist. J. E. Webb presented challenging message. S. Corlett, of Gardiner church, assisted as song-leader during mission.

**North Richmond.**—Auxiliaries have re-commenced. Women's Mission Band and Ladies' Sunshine Circle maintain interest. On Feb. 18 sixth annual conference of the Richmond-Collingwood district churches was held in chapel. Tea was provided by ladies. Reports from different churches indicated an upward trend in various auxiliaries, with a hopeful outlook for 1950. An inspirational rally was held at 8 p.m., and a stirring address was delivered by J. Turner. Women's world day of prayer service was held in chapel; many churches were represented. On first Sunday in each month teachers and officers of school hold a basket tea; senior scholars are invited and enjoy fellowship before adjourning to chapel for evening service.

**Maryborough.**—Mr. Stitt resumed ministry after vacation on Feb. 26. Church is appreciative of services of Messrs. Living and Drake, during absence of Mr. Stitt. On Feb. 19, Mr. Living extended special welcome to Mrs. Hunt and Mrs. Parnell, who had been absent through ill-health. Miss Dorothy Koeford was gospel soloist on Feb. 19 and Miss Joan Drake on 21st. Members of C.F.S. took part in morning service on March 5, reading and assisting at Lord's Supper. Sunday school picnic was held at Dunolly on March 4. Bet Bet and Dunolly joined in afternoon.

**Swan Hill.**—Offering received at harvest festival services will be donated to help Ultima brethren line chapel. Fellowship with visitors has been enjoyed. R. M. Streader addressed morning services, Feb. 19 and Mar. 5. Messrs. Candy and R. M. Streader have been appointed conference delegates. Young people are planning to share in youth camp at Monbulk, Berean club and Y.P.S.C.E. are well maintained, 18 attending Endeavor society. Bible school, under leadership of Mrs. R. Thomas, is making good progress, up to 87 attending. Church, under leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Candy, is making progress.

**Warrnambool.**—At business meeting on Feb. 23, following officers were elected: deacons, C. G. Clowes, secretary; C. R. LeCouteur, treasurer; C. F. Houston, V. H. Jenkins, N. Pritchard, N. G. Clowes; deaconesses, Mrs. G. Jenkins, Mrs. C. G. Clowes, Mrs. S. V. Petterd, Mrs. H. Cook, Mrs. M. Robb, Miss L. Mussen; these were installed on Mar. 5. Church has invited the preacher, T. V. Weir, to stay for a further term of three years. Sympathy is felt for family of Mrs. F. LeCouteur who passed to be with the Lord on Feb. 28. At close of gospel address on Mar. 5, Arthur LeCouteur made good confession. Mrs. M. Robb is seriously ill.

**Ascot Vale.**—A successful harvest festival was held on Feb. 5, much of the produce displayed being sent to Children's Hospital. Several farewelled Mr. and Mrs. Roy Dixon at wharf, and presented them with a basket of fruit. Four churches of district held quarterly prayer meeting at Ascot Vale. The meeting was conducted by North Essendon church, J. Wright leading. This was an inspiring service, and congregation of 58 had a great uplift. Mrs. Hendry, after a long illness, died. C. Burt conducted services at chapel and graveside. Mrs. Whittick is still attending hospital; prayers of church are made on her behalf. Young girls have commenced gymnastic work under trained leadership of Misses Beryl McCallum and Rosemary Hendry.

**Prahan.**—On Feb. 8 church held annual business meeting which was well attended. Reports from auxiliaries were encouraging. On Feb. 15 both services were well attended, particularly gospel meeting. Mr. Buckingham completed a series of addresses. Meeting on Feb. 19 was best for year. Mr. Buckingham commenced a pre-Easter campaign. Men's society has undertaken visitation work. Results are seen in increasing numbers of new scholars for kindergarten department where Mr. O'Neill is co-operating with Miss Chibnall, superintendent, in an effort to rebuild after polio epidemic. N. Harvey takes up his new appointment as secretary of Bible school on March 5. Attendances are keeping up, and numbers of fine young men and women are showing much interest.

**Oakleigh.**—K. J. Patterson has been speaker at all services. Average of 125 have broken bread. Offering, Feb. 26, for churches' international relief was £30/12/11. C.F.A. contributions for year reached £66/0/8. Church meeting on Feb. 22 endorsed plans for formation of mutual fund. Mrs. Price, of Preston, was welcomed to membership. Mr. and Mrs. J. Smith and family have transferred to Boronia. Isolated member, K. McGregor, of Leongatha, renewed fellowship during country week cricket. Bible school picnic on Feb. 18 at Belgrave was enjoyed by 90 children and 45 adults. School attendances are about 155. Mrs. F. Mathieson, chaplain, and Mrs. E. Thomas, deputy, have leadership of P.B.P. chapter.



Chapel paths have been concreted. Preparation is being made for lawn. Renovations have been made to manse interior. Mr. and Mrs. B. Burt have arrived from Tasmania.

**Carlton (Lygon-st.).**—Encouraging meetings have been experienced since the commencement of J. E. Brooke's ministry. Mr. Brooke has been speaker at all meetings. Miss Margaret Longhurst and Ray Magilton were married on Feb. 18. Presentations were made to Margaret by Young Women's Fellowship, Y.P.S.C.E. and Sunday school, in recognition of services. Letters of transfer have been granted to Mr. and Mrs. C. Pearce (Colac), Mr. and Mrs. F. Raisbeck (Cheltenham), Mr. and Mrs. C. Houston (Warrnambool). Good response was made to aborigines' offering, and to local food for Britain appeal. Many visitors have attended services including Mr. and Mrs. Swanson, of Edinburgh; Mr. and Mrs. Povey, W.A.; Mrs. Chalmers, Qld.; Mrs. Bradshaw, W.A. Mrs. Hodges, of Oakleigh, spoke at recent meeting of young married women's friendship league.

**Red Hills.**—Ladies' guild met on Feb. 9. R. Pritchard spoke at morning and evening services of Feb. 12. Several ladies held a working bee in chapel hall. G. Smith resumed his ministry at Red Hill on 19th, after a short vacation in W.A. Ladies' Mission Band met on Feb. 23 and added new members. A social evening was held on Feb. 24 to honor Mr. and Mrs. Les. Brown, who were married recently. Presentations were made on behalf of church and Y.P.S.C.E. society. A social evening was held by Sunday school scholars and parents on March 4. G. Smith was speaker on 5th, when many visitors were present. Sunday school held anniversary. Bright singing, under leadership of F. Butler, was enjoyed. After R. Muller's address to young people, prizes were distributed to scholars. Mr. Butler led singing of school, and Mrs. W. Torney kinders.

**Warragul.**—Meetings in all departments are being well maintained. Messrs. Byard, J. White and Rouse have given appreciated preaching services. Sister Alice Byard, a valued worker, received gifts prior to departure to Moreland church. Many visitors have had fellowship over holidays. Mr. Jackel gives a half hour broadcast service each fifth Sunday at 9 a.m. over 3UL Central Gippsland. C.E. society joined in rally at Moe Baptist church. Mr. Jackel has given faithful chart messages. Solos from Mesdames Byard, Buntrack, Davis and Mr. G. Thompson, of Springvale, were appreciated. Mr. and Mrs. Archer and Mrs. Bailey have been received into membership from Ivanhoe Baptist church. With regret officers accepted resignation of C. W. Jackel as preacher. During past three years Mr. Jackel has served church faithfully. Church is happy to announce that V. Quayle has accepted invitation to take up work. A property, in a central position, has been purchased on which, at a future date, brethren hope to build a chapel and hall.

**Doncaster.**—Annual election for officers resulted in return of A. F. Miller, L. Petty and D. Petty. Annual appeal for aborigines raised £23/14/-. Good Companions and Band of Hope have commenced year's programme. Harvest thanksgiving services were held on Feb. 26, a splendid array of fruit and produce being on display. This was distributed among three hospitals and guest home. At evening service, on 26th, three Bible school scholars, Lynette Dudley, Trevor Clay and Ian Cousin, made confession of faith. After service, which concluded Lionel Dudley's ministry, congregation adjourned to hall where presentations of a dinner set were made by T. Petty, on behalf of church, and cutlery and a basket of flowers to Mrs. Dudley, by Mrs. Frank Smedley, on behalf of ladies. Glenyss, Lynette and Janice Dudley were also presented with gifts from Bible school and the Good Companions. Refreshments concluded evening. Church made presentation to Miss Una Smith on occasion of her marriage on March 2. Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Burt commenced ministry at Doncaster on 5th.

**Bet Bet.**—During college vacation services were ably conducted by Messrs. Living and Drake, of Maryborough. Church appreciated their help. M. Roberts commenced his services with church on Feb. 19; his messages have been helpful. A suitable gift was presented by church ladies to Mrs. A. Nowells (nee Ethel Sewell), following her recent marriage. A combined S.S. picnic was held at Dunolly on Mar. 4, Maryborough, Bet Bet and Dunolly participating.

**Drumcondra.**—On Feb. 21 tea and annual meeting were held, about 70 members being present. There were good reports from auxiliaries. 21 new members were added in year, bringing membership to 124. Weekly envelope system of giving is proving successful. A motion of appreciation was recorded of work of officers who did not seek re-election, these being Mr. McKay (elder), D. McLure and G. Hore. R. E. Tattersall was elected elder and C. Dabb, C. Bauer and M. Douglas deacons. On 26th Mr. Cremin, a visitor from S.A., preached at evening service.

**Echuca.**—Services have been well attended since Mr. Hargreaves' arrival, and evening addresses have been most interesting. Morning S.S. commenced on Mar. 5, and attendance was higher. Majority of children stayed for part of morning service. Annual auxiliary meeting was held on Mar. 1; most office-bearers were returned. Boys' club re-commenced on Mar. 2. Annual church business meeting was postponed. Harvest festival was held on Mar. 5, and goods were sold following evening. Women's world day of prayer was held in church of Christ building, and a number of members took part. Albert Thompson, although greatly improved, is still sick as a result of a bicycle accident.

**Dunolly.**—On Oct. 27, S.S. held successful anniversary services, J. Lewis, of Shepparton, being speaker for day. Mr. Kimber on Nov. 27 gave farewell messages at close of service; R. Scott thanked Mr. Kimber for services rendered to church. When church was without a preacher, D. Beasy kindly offered to take services during holidays. On Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, L. Beasy, of Mildura, gave appreciated messages. A farewell evening was given to D. Beasy on Jan. 27 before his departure to Melbourne. On behalf of church R. Scott presented a suitable gift for valuable assistance given to church for many years. On Jan. 30 a number travelled to St. Arnaud for Midland Conference. M. Beasy conducted services on Feb. 12, and gave helpful messages. Sunday school was re-commenced on Feb. 5. Church looks forward to a year of happy service with M. Roberts, who has commenced his ministry on Feb. 19. Sisters J. Wilcox, S. Beasy, M. deKussal are in hospital.

**Reservoir.**—Youth Fellowship on Feb. 5 was addressed by J. Plummer, soloist being Miss Branda Wells. 25 young people sat down to an enjoyable tea session. Tennis teams will compete in A and B semi-finals, both having finished in third place. P.B.P. club, under leadership of chaplain, Mrs. Burns, visited the Railways Control Room and had a most instructive tour. Annual business meeting was held on Feb. 21. Retiring deacons, N. Thodey and H. Mason, were re-elected and also elder J. Plummer. New appointments were Messrs. Garth and House. General work is progressive and in healthy state; financial position is sound. On Mar. 5 men's quarterly fellowship was held. R. T. Hannah gave a working lecture on the repair and care of watches and clocks. Solos were rendered by Mr. Wells, of Tyler-st. Methodist. After a fine gathering at the tea table, the men of the church conducted gospel service. J. Plummer's address was appreciated, and Alan Bagot brought message in song, other men assisting in the order of service. Fortnightly prayer services in various homes have commenced after holiday break, and June Hillgrove and Irene McNiece have taken over joint leadership of J.C.E.

## South Australia

**Fullarton.**—Mar. 5 was commencement of sixth year of B. W. Manning's service with church. His work is appreciated by members. Secretary stressed this at church service, urging greater effort in crusade year. B. W. Manning made suitable reply before giving address. Kindergarten department had a special service to which parents and friends were invited. In evening monthly prophecy address was delivered. B. W. Manning gave a forthright sermon. Peter Mau led choir at song service, prior to meeting.

**Edwardstown West.**—On Jan. 30 a church picnic was held at Hawthorndene. About 50 enjoyed day. Tennis and other games were played. A young worshippers' league has been formed, and new members were enrolled on Feb. 12, 22 attending. Mr. and Mrs. Hunting, representing Biblical Research Society, visited C.E. meeting on Feb. 14. Mrs. Sugars gave a helpful talk. Mr. and Mrs. Hunting gave a lantern lecture. Newly-formed church choir has made good progress under leadership of Mr. Williams, and assisted at evening service of Feb. 12.

**Norwood.**—Meetings have been well attended. Church anniversary services were held on Mar. 5. H. Cave, conference president, was speaker at evening service. At harvest festival on Feb. 26, the display of goods was excellent. C.Y.F. has had Messrs. Coventry and Stirling as speakers. Youth service was held on Feb. 19, when young men took part. Dorcas society held annual meeting on Feb. 15; Mrs. Fulford was speaker, about 60 ladies being present. H. Caulfield, an aged member, died on Feb. 27. Youth centre activities were commenced, Mar. 6, with opening of gymnasium.

**Kilburn.**—Harvest thanksgiving was observed on Mar. 5, when Bible school and church gathered goods for display, and later divided between Children's Hospital and Christian Rest Home. Attendance at 10 a.m. Bible school was 120, including two new scholars. K. W. Dixon preached helpfully at 11.15 a.m., there being 28 adults and 32 young worshippers present. Under leadership of W. Morrow, the youth department evangelical team conducted 7 p.m. gospel service. Miss Lyn Hirst read scriptures, Bill Buxton and Miss Lois Baker rendered two duets, and Bob Deane gave excellent story to children, combining with W. Morrow to preach gospel. 42 attended and appreciated visit.

**Balaklava.**—Annual business meeting of church has been held with splendid support of members; with work of choir and addresses of preacher, church has shown progress. There were 17 confessions for year. Meeting decided to build a raised, tiled baptistry, and to commence a fund to purchase a manse when circumstances permit. A. Whiting resigned as deacon after years of faithful service. While A. Cremin was on vacation, Messrs. Gibson, Jones, Shepherd and Woolford delivered appreciated sermons. C. Schwab was special speaker for harvest thanksgiving service; he delivered splendid sermons. On behalf of church Mr. Schwab received Kevin Hennig into fellowship. Temple Sines has been elected president of boys' club.

**Cottonville.**—Sunday school attendances have been increasing, but kindergarten has been low. Two new scholars, Jeffery Parker and Kenneth Young, of Butler Tanks, have been welcomed. Officers and ladies have been busy preparing manse for arrival of new preacher. Average offerings for February reached £14/2/3, a record; while £3/13/6 has been received for the Aborigines Board annual offering. Mrs. Gloyn is home from hospital, and Mrs. Sinclair is better. Mr. and Mrs. L. Curtis, and son, John, have moved to W.A. Ladies' auxiliary held a picnic on Feb. 22, when a large attendance began activities for year. Les Stevenson is in Northfield Infectious Diseases Hospital with poliomyelitis. Geoff. Hollands was present on Mar. 5, having been stationed locally in the R.A.A.F. Speakers recently have been Mr. Cornelius, A. Glastonbury, S. R. Beck and H. Cave.



Owen.—There was a large and representative gathering in chapel on Feb. 27 to say farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lawrie, who are leaving district for Adelaide. Mr. Lawrie united with local church in 1914, and his wife became a member some time later; both have rendered splendid service. He was a local preacher, deacon and secretary to church, besides assisting sister churches. He is president of the northern churches of Christ conference. Mrs. Lawrie was a deaconess and prominent worker in guild. Representatives were present from Balaklava, Long Plains and Avon. A presentation was made to Mrs. Lawrie by Mrs. M. Richards, and the preacher, J. Baker, presented guests with a silver tea service. Their assistance will be missed in district.

## Queensland

Bundaberg.—On Feb. 26, visitors to Barolin-st. were Mr. and Mrs. Cooper, of Sydney (Woolwich College), and Mr. and Mrs. Burdeu, from Brisbane. Mr. Burdeu preached to a good congregation, despite cyclonic weather, on morning of 26th; attendance was small at night. Miss Coral Chapple, who has been ill for some time, is recovering. Sims-rd. helping band and Barolin-st. mission band are commencing year's work. Bible school at Sims-rd. reports new scholars. Mr. Cooper, from Granville, N.S.W., spoke at morning service at Barolin-st. on Mar. 5, and service was held at Sims-rd. at night.

Boonah.—Mt. Alford fellowship combined with Boonah fellowship at Boonah for final meeting with Mr. and Mrs. V. G. Boettcher. At social which followed various speakers expressed regret at departure of Mr. and Mrs. V. G. Boettcher and referred to their faithful service rendered during a two-year ministry. Final services were conducted by Mr. Boettcher on Feb. 26. Public farewell was given in chapel on Feb. 27, when Mr. Ferguson, of East Ipswich, presided. Mrs. J. Raymond sang a solo. Presentations and speeches of appreciation were made on behalf of ladies' guild, fellowships, Sunday school, and church. At conclusion supper was served by the ladies.

West Moreton.—The annual business meetings have indicated much progress throughout the past year. Many new faces are to be seen on the board of officers throughout the five churches, revealing a keen interest among the younger brethren for church polity. Torrential rains interfered with church services for past three weeks. Services on Mar. 5 were excellently attended. At the gospel meeting, Rosewood, A. C. Caldicott buried eight believers with Christ by baptism. Mrs. Norman Schealler has been restored to fellowship. At close of gospel meeting two others decided for Christ. The whole service was one of those impressive and unforgettable experiences.

## New South Wales

North Sydney.—On Feb. 19 a young lady confessed Christ, and was baptised following Sunday, and on Mar. 5 a married lady and daughter made confession of their faith. On Feb. 22 church business meeting was held, when interesting reports of work were read. Keith Williams was elected a deacon and C. Flegg was returned to board. It was decided to invite a student from Woolwich College to assist in work, and Mr. Paddon commenced on Mar. 5.

Inverell.—Church annual business meeting was held on Feb. 13, when three new officers were added to board: C. Stone, A. Mackie and C. Curtis. Officers expressed satisfaction with work done by various auxiliaries. Harvest festival services were held on Feb. 19, chapel being appropriately decorated. Sale of goods, together with freewill offerings, amounted to over £200. On Feb. 23, R. Greenhalgh and S. Laney arrived at Inverell, and same evening showed sacred and educational films to a good audience. On Feb. 26, church services were conducted by visitors, also meeting in afternoon at Delungra. Recent visitors included Sister Bates, from Brisbane.

Bankstown.—The work in Bankstown church is showing encouraging progress under leadership of P. Retchford. The annual Bible school picnic was held at Carr's Bush Park on Feb. 11. Following the recent success of Picnic Point mission, brethren are planning another tent mission at Bankstown. Improvements to church property, at present under way by voluntary labor, include erection of a garage for manse, and a new concrete-block fence.

Seven Hills.—The largest gathering for some time met for communion on Feb. 26, J. W. Boswell being speaker. Evening service was conducted, in Soldiers' Memorial Hall, by E. Roffey, attendance being above average. On Mar. 4, many came to hear C. Main speak of his work and experiences with the aborigines in Northern Australia. At conclusion W. D. Howard, of Bible College, was welcomed. He commenced his ministry here on Mar. 5 with good meetings. Ladies' auxiliary meetings have re-commenced after being in abeyance for three months. After two months' illness H. James is meeting with church.

Wagga.—Wilkie Thomson has commenced his fifth year with church. Harvest thanksgiving services were held, Feb. 26. Effective decorations were provided by helpers, under direction of J. Morrison. Goods were presented to Base Hospital. Church rejoiced to have Mr. Pearson at morning service, Feb. 26. Owing to illness, he had not been able to attend for 15 months. W. J. Crossman, conference president, and Mrs. Crossman, attended a fellowship tea. Mr. Crossman gave a stirring message at evening service. Church has been saddened to learn of death of Mrs. K. Gerrand, daughter of Mrs. Rich; sympathy has been extended to relatives. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. T. Greenway are in hospital. Over £20 was received for aborigines offering.

Broken Hill.—Successful harvest thanksgiving services were held, Feb. 26, R. Hilford giving appreciated addresses. There was a fine display of gifts. After evening service some were donated to local Old Folks' Home, and packeted gifts are to be given for overseas missionary parcels. Members of church organisations and friends gathered to congratulate and say farewell to Alan Hosking (son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Hosking), who has been awarded a public exhibition in faculty of medicine, at Sydney University. Alan gained A passes in 6 subjects and honors in mathematics. He was also awarded South B.H. Mine scholarship. He has grown from cradle roll to young manhood in church. R. Hilford made presentation of a travelling kit, on behalf of various auxiliaries. Alan will be missed from church, especially by his Sunday school class. Speakers represented Bible school, church, Y.P.S.C.E., Intermediate C.E. and J.C.E. Mrs. B. N. Rough, in hospital, is making good progress after operation. Church congratulates Alan Hilford also on award of a South Mine scholarship.

## Western Australia

North Perth.—Since last report the work at North Perth has continued to show steady progress. On Dec. 10 Miss Bonnie Horton and Searle Hutton were united in marriage. They have since left for Port Hedland, where they have made their home. A tennis club, under leadership of Miss Thelma Bown, has been formed. On Dec. 18 a Christmas service, in which Sunday school children took part, was held; there were about 90 present. Mrs. Lawson, following her baptism, has been received into fellowship. Mr. and Mrs. Manning and their son and daughter are meeting with church. Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Moore have left for country. Jan. 16, was 45th anniversary of church. Hariba Waghmode spoke on Jan. 29. Mr. Hammer addressed church on Feb. 5. Sunday school picnic was held at Mosman's Bay, a very pleasant day being enjoyed. Central districts' union held combined meeting in chapel on Jan. 26.

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## NEW BIOGRAPHIES

Pastor D. J. Findlay, by Alexander Gammie. A well-known Glasgow pastor who was a mighty force in missionary enterprise. 7/9 (8/3).

Mrs. Howard Taylor — Her Web of Time, by Joy Guinness. Life story of a remarkable woman of God. 19/6 (20/6).

Sweet Believing, by Jock Purves. Eight character studies of the Scottish Covenanters. 5/6 (5/9).

The Reward of Faith, by G. Godfrey Buxton. The story of Barclay F. Buxton, pioneer missionary of the Japan Evangelistic Band. 11/9 (12/-).

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## 85th ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN VICTORIA, APRIL 5 to 12.

Synopsis of Programme.

Wed., Apr. 5.—Women's Conference, Lygon-st.  
All day from 10.30.

Thurs., April 6—2.30, Swanston-st., Reception  
by President, Women's Conference.

3, Lygon-st., Preachers' Session.

5.45, Lygon-st., Pre-Conference Tea and Discussion.

7.45, Lygon-st., Opening Session General Conference., President's Welcome and Address. Reports.

Fri., Apr. 7.—Lygon-st., 9.30, Conference Continued. Address by Incoming President.

2, Vital Departmental Discussions.

7.15, Home Mission Demonstration.

Sat., April 8—Lygon-st., Conference Continued. 9.30, Discussion. Reports.

1.45, Further Vital Discussions.

7.30, Overseas Missions Demonstration.

Sun., Apr. 9—2.45, Independent Church, Collins-st., Conference Sermon Session.

Mon., Apr. 10—All Day Picnic at Wattle Park. 7.15, Lygon-st., Christian Endeavor Rally.

Tues., Apr. 11—5.45, Lygon-st., College Old Boys' Club Re-union.

7.45, Lygon-st., Social Service Session.

Wed., Apr. 12—8, Melbourne Town Hall, Great Youth Demonstration.



#### ADDRESSES

J. T. Holloway (secretary Collins-st. church, Hobart, Tas.).—26 Station-st., Moonah.

E. R. Sherman (preacher, Maylands church, S.A.).—Devitt-ave., Payneham South. 'Phone 4863.

C. H. J. Wright (preacher Albion church, Qld.).—84 McLennan-st., Lutwyche.

#### DEATH

INVERARITY (Mrs. J. R. Leach).—Called to higher service on Feb. 24, at Perth, after eight months' illness. Loving mother of Maimie (Mrs. E. R. Sherman, Maylands, S.A.), Evelyn (Mrs. Neil Brown, Berriwillock, Vic.), Ian (Essendon, Vic.), and John (Inglewood, W.A.). Aged 49 years. With Christ, which is far better.

#### IN MEMORIAM

PHILLIPS.—Treasured memories of our dear mother, Harriett Phillips, who passed away at Cremorne, Sydney, on March 28, 1947. —Sadly missed by her daughters, Nellie and Elsie.

#### ELOCUTION PUPILS

Miss Lorna Ford, A.L.C.M., has vacancies and will be pleased to interview anyone at her home — 858 Hampton-st., North Brighton.

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Malvern City Band will provide music.

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—K. A. Jones, secretary.

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#### NORTH FITZROY 77th CHURCH

#### ANNIVERSARY,

MARCH 26.

11 a.m., Communion Service, preacher, Mr. K. Jones.

3 p.m., "An Hour of Music," with Olive Smyth, Ron Smyth, Raymond Meadows and Leslie Miers.

5 p.m., Community Tea.

7 p.m., Preacher, Mr. D. Wakeley. Soloist, Miss I. Atkins.

#### PRAHRAN CHURCH OF CHRIST, HIGH ST.

#### BACK TO PRAHRAN SUNDAY,

APRIL 2.

11 a.m., Mr. K. Jones.

2.45 p.m., a special musical treat provided by the Melbourne Spiritual Choir.

7 p.m., Preacher, F. E. Buckingham.

Hospitality provided.

#### BENTLEIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL

#### ANNIVERSARY,

MARCH 19.

3 p.m., H. Earle. 7 p.m., J. Wiltshire.

MARCH 26.

3 p.m., J. Shaw. 7 p.m., R. Bolduan.

#### QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

#### JOHN FISHER WILLIAMS' MEMORIAL FOUNDATION.

Eight Public Lectures on "THE FAITH THAT HEALS,"

by Dr. W. L. Carrington, M.D., B.S.

Place—Anatomy Lecture Theatre, University of Melbourne, at 8 p.m.

Tues., Mar. 21—The Historical Background of Medicine and Religion.

Tues., Mar. 28—The Anatomy and Physiology of Personality.

Tues., April 4—The Pathology of Personality.

Tues., April 18—The Preventive Medicine of the Future.

Wed., April 26—The Diagnosis of Personality Disorders.

Tues., May 2—The General Management of Personality Problems.

Tues., May 9—The Specific Treatment of Some Emotional Disorders.

Tues., May 16—Christianity and Medicine: What of the Future?

At the discretion of the chairman, general discussion will take place at the conclusion of each lecture.

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#### WARRAGUL 50th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY AND HOME-COMING THANKSGIVING SERVICES,

APRIL 16, 11 a.m., 2.45 p.m., 7 p.m.

Guest speakers:

A. E. Hurren, W. W. Saunders, C. W. Jackel.

Final Sunday, Fellowship Dinner and Tea.

Thankoffering for the Building Fund.

Past members and all interested members invited.

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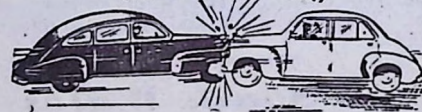
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# Obituary

## Elizabeth Ann Barnett

THE church at Ascot Vale, Vic., lost one of its long loved members when Elizabeth Ann Barnett passed from this life on Feb. 16. Our sister, who was in her 86th year, had long been associated with churches of Christ. Born in a little settlement outside of Castle-maine, our sister came to receive Christ at the church in Prahran. Later she became associated with the church at Ascot Vale. Those who knew her there thank God for her life of Christian faith and fortitude. She, by her kind, warm-hearted manner, won the love and respect of many, both within and without the church. Up till her failing health confined her to her bed some fifteen months ago, our sister's life was spent in devoted service for the Master she loved; even from her bed she continued to witness for him. Her gracious personality leaves a fragrant memory of a sister beloved in the Lord. Services at the home and graveside were conducted by the writer. Many floral tributes bore eloquent testimony to the high esteem in which our sister was held. So does she rest from her labors, and her works do follow her, until the day dawn and the shadows flee away. We commend unto God the dear ones who miss so grand a companion and friend, reminding them that we shall meet again in the Father's home above.—C.G.B.

## Mrs. Blanche Hendry

ON Feb. 10, the home-call came to Mrs. Blanche Hendry, of the church at Ascot Vale, Vic. Our sister had suffered much, but the compassionate Father of all had pity upon her, and bade her leave her mortal burden in exchange for the crown of life. Her life was one of faith and courage. She believed with all her heart in God. Her life, hard and tempest-tossed, was a testimony of a triumphant faith. Our sister came to Christ under the ministry of L. E. Snow in September, 1933. Since then she has continued steadfast in the profession of faith she made before men. Though her affliction was grievous and her trials sore, she never flinched from what she knew was lying before her. She believed that underneath were the "everlasting arms." In a recent letter to a friend she wrote:

"Back of each cloud there is sunshine,  
And in each raindrop too.  
And little flowers are waiting  
To smile at skies of blue.  
And we will soon be seeing  
The brightness of their cheer,  
For every sign is saying,  
'Glad days will soon be here.'"

The words were prophetic. The ink was hardly dry when those "glad days" broke in upon her. After a service in the chapel, the writer laid the last remains of our sister to rest in the Coburg cemetery, in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection in Christ. We commend her four sorrowing children to the care of almighty God, knowing that he will supply their every need.—C.G.B.

## Mrs. Florence LeCourteur

WARRNAMBOOL church, Vic., has suffered a grievous loss in death of Mrs. Florence LeCourteur, who passed to be with the Lord on Feb. 28, after a brief illness. Our sister was a gracious Christian who spent her life endeavoring to help others. Her husband predeceased her in 1946, and she is survived by her children, Margery (Mrs. A. G. Goldstraw), Bessie (Mrs. W. R. Crouch), Elsie (Mrs. J. Brookes), Jean (Mrs. I. T. Brookes), Arthur, Leslie, Colin, Marion and Vivienne. Her last hours were a triumphant witness of the reality of her faith in the Lord Jesus, and allow us to feel that she has passed to her promised reward. Funeral services in the church building and at the cemetery were conducted by the writer. We commend all who mourn her passing to the care and love of God.—T.V.W.

# Open Forum

FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS.

(Correspondents are reminded that letters should not be more than 300 words in length, that names and not pseudonyms should be used, and that once a writer has had his say on a particular topic he should leave the way open for somebody else. We do not desire unsatisfactory crossfiring. The insertion of a letter does not imply editorial approval of its contents.—Ed.)

## WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

WE appreciate the right and need of free, frank and friendly expression in the search for truth, and in that spirit we reply to the statement by K. A. Macnaughtan on the World Council of Churches published in "The Australian Christian," 21/2/1950.

We deeply disagree with the errors of the Roman Catholic church, and recognise that by the standard of perfection it is not a Christian body. However, while recognising different degrees of error, by that standard there is surely no really Christian body on earth. It appears presumptuous to us to deny the profession of a body which, in spite of all its errors, stands firmly upon many fundamentals of the Christian faith, and which does produce saints. To identify the Roman Catholic church with the "mother of harlots" may express the theory of some people, but to many others it is a dubious opinion.

It is true that we differ deeply from the Eastern Orthodox church and other members of the World Council, but the basis of membership is not total agreement. The ecumenical movement is a movement towards an end, and one in which we are asked to make our witness, not to give it up. Membership does not mean agreement on all matters, but unity in things on which we agree and a willingness to face differences in a free, frank and friendly discussion. How can we exchange our convictions effectively except in this kind of fellowship?

We agree that we plead for the unity of Christians in a church of the New Testament pattern. In the New Testament sense there are no churches except local congregations. A union or federation of denominational churches is not our ideal. But the urge towards unity is surely a movement of the Spirit in the imperfections of human history. Should we not seize this opportunity to present the ideal which God has entrusted to us?

The common and expressed faith of the World Council is in line with our plea for a divine, personal creed: "No creed but Christ." Our faith is in a Person. Christianity is a matter of personal relationship with him. The basis of church membership and test of faith and fellowship is the simple confession of him as the Christ, the Son of the living God. Interpretations may vary, but we eschew these as tests.

Some men associated with the World Council may tend to "water down" some aspects of the Christian faith, but they are not representative of all. It is hardly right to generalise from particulars. There is no question that the general trend of theology is back to the abiding truths of the Christian faith, and much evidence could be produced to show the depth and truth of the common or general faith of the World Council. Many personal contacts convince us of the true faith and sincerity of men who are enthusiasts in a movement whose avowed aim is to discover the will of God for the unity of his people.

It would appear tragic to us if churches of Christ withdrew their membership and witness from this council, and in that measure broke fellowship with so many sincere Christians whom Thomas Campbell described as our brethren of all denominations—J. McG. Abercrombie, W. T. Atkin, R. C. Bolduan, W. H.

Clay, A. W. Cleland, H. R. Coventry, Howard Earle, R. Enniss, W. G. Graham, K. A. Jones, W. A. Kemp, F. T. Morgan, F. N. Lee, R. P. Morris, W. F. Nankivell, S. Neighbour, G. H. Oldfield, V. C. Stafford, L. A. Trezise, John Turner, D. Wakeley, A. B. Withers and E. L. Williams.

PERMIT me to express my appreciation of K. A. Macnaughtan's letter on the above subject. There are many in N.S.W. who feel as he does, and who fear that the witness and work of over 100 years may be fruitlessly thrown away at this time by association with the World Council of Churches. He rightly points out that the plea of churches of Christ has not been "church union" but "the restoration of the primitive church" and a "unity of the body of Christ consequent upon that restoration." That is a totally different thing from an amalgamation of widely differing elements upon the basis of compromise. Someone might say that our association with the W.C.C. does not involve any such compromise. Some of us do not feel too sure of that, and would feel much happier to remain a separate group, witnessing to the basic principles of the divine revelation, unhampered by the opinions of men, whose soundness in the faith may rightly be questioned on the basis of their public utterances or written words.

Some of us have regard for the admonition: "Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues" (Rev. 18: 4). It is true, as you point out in your sub-leader, that the local congregation is not bound by the decision of conference; but it would not be easy nor would it make for the unity for which we do plead, if half of our churches repudiated the decision of conference, and yet chose to remain in association with conference. That would give rise to much painful feeling, and cause a serious breach in our ranks. God save us from such a situation and keep us loyal to the plea which our fathers set out to make known!—G. E. Burns, Mosman, N.S.W.

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Boonah, Qld.

S. Aust.—Mr. E. H. Kentish, 29 Warwick-  
ave., Toorak Gardens.

Tas.—Mr. G. J. Foot, 48 Hill-st., Launce-  
ton, Tas.

Vic.—Mr. W. A. Wigney, 7 Churchill-st.,  
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Or to Mr. D. G. Hammer, Federal Sec.,  
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