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The  
**Australian  
Christian**

National Weekly Representing Churches of Christ

Britain Welcomes Australian Help



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*Appeals made through the churches to assist the people of Britain are well supported. This picture shows how much these gifts are welcomed by a group of aged ladies.*



# A Christian Handclasp Across the Seas

## ITALY

### "Moral Decay"

DR. CRAIN writes in "World Call": "In the October issue I referred to encouraging signs of a Protestant movement in Italy. Italy needs a vigorous evangelical movement. One sees on every hand evidences of the complacency, spiritual pride and moral decay that inevitably accompany monopoly of religion. An Italian Protestant said bitterly, 'The church doesn't care for people. It cares only for itself and its privileges.' A young Roman Catholic doctor said, 'The church cares—it just doesn't care enough.' This 'not caring enough' is evident everywhere—in the indescribable poverty of the poor, in the thousands of beggars who infest the streets of the cities, in the condition of the serfs on the great landed estates, in the wealth and power of the church visible everywhere. Last, but not least, it is evidenced in the millions of Italians who have ceased to have any real concern for religion and have turned to secularism, atheism or communism. The Roman Catholic church in Italy would be the first to profit from a vigorous evangelical movement. Experience has shown that, wherever the Protestants come, the established church is moved to awakened action. 'There are signs that such an evangelical movement is developing, though it is still in its infancy. For example, the Southern Baptists have sent Dewey Moore to Rome to give leadership to the Italian Baptists.'



## U.S.A.

### How Free is the Press?

FOR weeks now "The New York Times" book review section has had on its best-seller list a book for which it refuses to accept an advertisement. We refer to Paul Blanchard's "American Freedom and Catholic Power," one of the fastest selling and most talked-about books published this year. And one of the least read about!

The newspapers of the country, with few exceptions, have not reviewed Blanchard's book and have not permitted its listing in advertisements. This unusual editorial reticence about a best-seller is due, of course, to Roman Catholic pressure. The book is a scholarly and accurate treatment of the conflict between American ideals of freedom and ecclesiastical efforts at regimenting the life of a large segment of the population. The basic contentions of Mr. Blanchard are well substantiated by careful reference to Roman Catholic authorities.

No serious effort has been made to answer the arguments of the author. Instead, an attempt has been made to prevent papers from giving the book publicity, and to keep it off the shelves of public libraries, and to persuade book stores not to handle it, or at least to keep it under the counter. Despite all these efforts, the intrinsic value of the volume and its relevance to the problems of to-day continue to speed up its sales. "American Freedom and Catholic Power" was reviewed in the September issue of "World Call."—"World Call."



## ANNIVERSARY OF EVANGELIST

### Moody's Revival

ON December 22 a half century passed since D. L. Moody was called to his rest and reward. A few hours before the end he had spoken of it as his "coronation day." He was the greatest evangelist America has ever produced. It is equally true to say that no American has ever made such a lasting impact on Britain, or has done more to unite the two

great English-speaking peoples in close and enduring friendship.

Sir George Adam Smith said of the first great mission conducted by Moody and Sankey, in 1873-75, that it "lifted thousands and tens of thousands of persons already trained in religion to a more clear and decided consciousness of their Christianity. It baptised crowds in the Spirit of Jesus, and opened the eyes of innumerable men and women to the reality of the great facts of repentance and conversion, to the possibility of self-control, and of peace by God's Spirit."

D. L. Moody paid five visits to Britain. He came first in a private capacity in 1867, attracted by his interest in three men—George Muller, George Williams, the founder of the Y.M.C.A., and Charles Haddon Spurgeon. It was Spurgeon in particular who drew Moody to Britain. Speaking seventeen years later, at Spurgeon's fiftieth birthday celebration, Moody stated that the tabernacle was the first place he made for. When he saw Spurgeon descend to the rostrum (to use his own words), "My eyes just feasted on him. My heart's desire for years was now realised. I followed Spurgeon wherever he went, and he sent me back to America a better man."

Moody's work in Britain was in the fullest sense of the word a revival movement. It is doubtful whether any previous revival called out so many future leaders, or sent so large a number of missionaries to the foreign field. We have referred to F. B. Meyer. There was also Henry Drummond, who was eminently fitted to present the gospel to the educated classes. The late Lord Balfour was only one among eminent people who attended Drummond's Bible readings. Prebendary Wilson Carlile, founder of the Church Army, said to the writer, a few years ago: "It was Moody who trained me for evangelism."



## AMERICAN REVIVAL

### Meetings at Los Angeles

THERE has been a remarkable movement of the Holy Spirit in the Greater Los Angeles Campaign which, after eight weeks of evangelistic meetings under the leadership of Dr. Billy Graham, concluded on Nov. 20. It is calculated that the aggregate attendance was 350,000, of whom 3000 made profession of faith in the Saviour, and a further 3000 volunteered for missionary service or rededicated themselves to Christ. The campaign in which about 700 churches showed an active interest, drew the attention of the secular press in the United States and in this country.

Outstanding conversions have stirred southern California, and the mayor of the city said, "I welcome every effort made in Los Angeles to impress on individuals the necessity for religious conviction such as is being made in the Graham revival crusade." Prayer groups had been meeting for nine months before the campaign, and the sense of expectation was expressed in the training of hundreds of personal workers. Radio and television stars and other personalities of the entertainment world were in regular attendance, and it is recognised that this is the first evangelistic campaign which has broken through the veneer of Hollywood's sophistication. Associated with Dr. Graham were Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Barrows, George Beverly Shea, Grady Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Csehy, and many others. Even the night watchman at the tent site found himself frequently engaged in the early hours in leading a soul to Christ as penitents returned to the scene of their conviction by the Holy Spirit.—"Life and Faith."

## THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

February 14, 1950

## CONTINENTAL SUNDAY

### Religion in America

THE editor of the British journal, "The Christian," has visited America. He makes interesting observations on religious life in that country. He says: "Regrettable tendencies among us are even more manifest in the United States. In particular, the 'Continental Sunday' is far too evident in the great cities, and the general craze for ease and pleasure does influence the way in which even earnest Christians observe the Lord's day. Yet there are many notable exceptions. Somewhat paradoxically, perhaps, the percentage of church membership in relation to population is considerably higher than in Britain. Here again, however, statistics may be a deceptive guide. Often the average attendance at church services falls below a third of the nominal membership."

"The year book of the American churches, I observe, states that the total church membership in the U.S.A. is about 76,000,000. It is pointed out that 150 years ago, only one person in fifteen was a church member, and it is added: 'On the surface at least the United States appears to be a religious country.'

"As I pointed out in an earlier article, America appears to be well ahead of us in Sunday school organisation. I doubt whether the drift of older scholars from church and Sunday school is as extensive there as it is here. One factor which may be a pointer in the direction of how to retain the interest of youth is that American churches and youth organisations manage to enlist musical and vocal talent on a larger scale than we do. It is no uncommon thing for young men and women to take courses of training at schools and academies in order to become more efficient pianists and soloists at their own churches."



## DR. NIEMOLLER'S STORY

### Hands of Christ

IN the course of an address given soon after his release from concentration camp at the end of the recent war, Dr. Martin Niemoller, the German confessional pastor, told a story from the suffering city of Frankfurt-on-Main. All the churches in that city except one were destroyed by bombing. In one of the ruined churches, St. Mark's, when the roof and vault broke down, a great statue of Christ with outstretched arms was buried beneath the debris. As soon as possible afterwards the people sought to recover the statue, and were surprised to discover that it was very little damaged—only one thing had happened, the hands had been broken off. So there, amid the ruin of war, is the statue—Christ without hands. The elders of St. Mark's have since met and resolved that if ever it becomes possible for them to rebuild their beloved church, the statue will be replaced as it is: for, they argue, the hands of Christ are the members of the fellowship, in the pulpit and in the pews.

This story brings us very near to the spirit of the New Testament, where the Christian life is defined in terms of a body and its members, Christ himself being the Head. The familiar lines of the hymn similarly remind us:

Christ has no hands but our hands  
To do his work to-day;  
He has no feet but our feet  
To lead men in the way;  
He has no tongue but our tongues  
To tell men how he died,  
He has no help but our help  
To bring them to his side.

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# No Camouflage in God's Kingdom

THE newly-hatched chicks of the wading-bird called the stilt because of its long slender legs, were observed for the first time in 1930.

They were a surprise for bird-lovers. The young of most swamp-dwelling waders are "artfully camouflaged with flecks of brown on grey or grey on brown, making them extraordinarily difficult to see," but the young of banded stilt are pure white. Nature is so careful to hide her children from their natural enemies by color and habit that any exception to the rule is considered a curious freak.

In general life a man tends to hide from his enemies. Deception is an art practised by opposing forces in war. The business world is familiar with various efforts made by competitors to gain, by sly and subtle means, an advantage over another. In commerce efforts are made to hide trade secrets from a rival.

Jesus Christ acted so openly that all men who desired could see and hear him. Except when he needed to refresh himself because of his life of busy service, he was available to friend or foe. He did not hide himself from enemies. When his opponents were awaiting his arrival at Jerusalem, the disciples urged their Master not to venture into danger. But Jesus could not deny the way of life to which he had given himself. He was ready to live openly and to face his enemies in the hour of trial.

Jesus chose to walk always in the light. His enemies, however, planned to act against him under the cover of darkness. When he was praying at night in the Garden of Gethsemane, the priests sent soldiers to creep upon him. His reply to them was: "I sat daily with you teaching in the temple, and ye laid no hold on me." Jesus was ready to walk openly before his enemies. He did not try to camouflage himself. The order of nature was reversed; the enemies of the Master used sly means to gain an advantage against him.

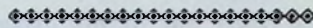
Jesus urged his followers to act openly before all: not to hide themselves from the world. They are to be as candles, or lamps, set high on a stand to give light to the whole room; they are to be as a city built on a hill, and not hidden, but seen clearly by the world. Jesus said to the disciple, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

The religion of Jesus is not for moles, who love darkness, but for children of the light. What Jesus desires to be performed before men is not the rites and customs of formal religion, but deeds of love, sympathy, goodwill and self-sacrifice. There were those in the days of Jesus who were ready to parade religion before men, but in secret performed dishonest, cruel and wicked deeds. Jesus branded men who sought to camouflage evil lives by religious ceremonies as hypocrites.

Jesus was also taught that we cannot cover our allegiance to him by the cloak of secrecy. Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews, was attracted to Jesus. It seems he considered that the ordinary men ought to make a public profession of conversion by baptism, but such an open witness was not demanded of him. Jesus surprised him by urging that he, too, needed to make a public witness of his faith. Unless a man is born of water (an open witness of surrender to Christ) and the spirit (an inward change of heart and life) he cannot enter the kingdom of God. The man who had come to Jesus at night, seemed to desire to cover his relationship with Christ under the cloak of secrecy.

There are no secret disciples in the kingdom of God. Jesus made it clear that men must make an open declaration of their surrender to the Lord. Camouflage is not used by disciples of Christ. They stand and witness openly before friend and foe. For that reason Jesus

## EDITORIAL



told Nicodemus he must be baptised. In Christian baptism a convert reveals outwardly the creation by the Spirit of an inward spiritual change. Some people hesitate, like Nicodemus, to stand openly with Christ. They make excuses why they ought not declare publicly their faith. But those who change the world for the better are not ashamed of the gospel of Christ.



## The End of the World

ARE human beings caught in the arms of fate? Will Nemesis work out her dreadful end? Step by step man is walking into the abyss of his own making. Under the god of mind he has discovered the secrets of vast power. All this power he directs against himself. Man is out to destroy man by vast forces he is unleashing from the heart of the universe. Huge organisations of men, under the power of governments, are alone capable of developing the terrific power of modern warfare. Organised man, plus atomic power, is bringing man, the individual, to his end. Only a revolution will save man from certain destruction. This is not the revolution of one organised group against another, but of man, the individual, against the organised man and his organised power. The call is for individual man to free himself from the destruction being planned by organised man. If such a revolution were successful, the onward rush of modern man to his self-destruction could be stopped. But is man prepared to pay the cost? Has he not been made too soft by the comforts of modern civilisation? The song of the sirens of modern science has enchanted him, and he is now drifting to his destruction. We see Christ alone as our hope and salvation. But if the world neglects so great a salvation, how can it escape?



## A Visitor From India

WE believe the coming of Hariba Waghmode to Australia has been a great experience for our brother. By personal contact with the people of this continent, by fellowship with churches, his life has been enriched. He will carry back many memories of the years spent at Glen Iris Bible college. No doubt he will be able to help the brethren in churches of "Our India" in many ways. We believe the Federal Overseas Mission Board will see many beneficial results arising on the mission fields because of this visit of our Indian brother.

Having presumed more than we ought in giving our views of how much Mr. Waghmode has been helped by his visit, we ought now to state what we intended to emphasise at the beginning. If Hariba Waghmode has been helped by his visit to Australia, we here in this land have learned much of India and her peoples through his coming.

We have discovered what excellent work our missionaries are doing when they train a young man so thoroughly in Christian living. His bright, cheerful personality has impressed us. We can see what Christ has achieved in his life. If such a victory can be gained in one person, it can be gained in millions of others in India.

The sermons he has preached to congregations, large and small, have created interest. Christians have been helped by his testimony. We can see clearly now that in Christ there is neither East nor West, neither black nor white; all are one; for the middle wall of partition has been destroyed by the power of the cross.

We believe Mr. Waghmode will be as good an ambassador for Australia in India as he has been for India when here in Australia.



# So You Want to be a Preacher, My Son!

WELL, that's grand, and I guess I know just how you feel. It's a splendid desire and a magnificent choice in life; and if I had my days over again I'd choose the same life's work. Though, mind you, I'd like to start out with the experience I've gained over the years. If you are sure you are called to the ministry of the word, you'll never be happy unless you answer that call. If you are not called of God, you'll probably never be happy as a preacher. So make as sure as you can that the Lord has a task for you to do, as a consecrated servant of his, and then dedicate yourself to that task. I remember the story of a man who felt he was called to go and serve in the "foreign fields," as we called them; but for some reason he never went there. However, the Lord sent some foreigners to live alongside of him; a Greek on one side and an Italian on the other, whilst farther down the street a Chinaman opened a laundry. Now do you know that man sold out and went to live in what he termed it, "a more select suburb." Somehow I always doubted that man's "call."

You'll meet with lots of disappointments as you go on. You'll maybe find the years of study irksome because you want to be about "your Father's business." The world will wait, son, and if the Lord comes before you've finished your training, that's his business. And what are five, six or more years out of a life, if that time is spent in preparation? Abraham Lincoln used to say, "I will get ready and then, perhaps, my chance will come." When the time did come it found him ready. Yes, we spend all too little time in preparing ourselves for the greatest and most important work in the world. They used to tell us the story of J. W. McGarvey, who was interviewing a prospective student for the ministry. The young man said he wanted a short course, about three months. Professor McGarvey took the young man to a window of his study and showed him an oak growing in the college grounds. "Do you see that oak, young man?" he said, "well, it took God a hundred years or more to grow that tree, but he can grow a squash in three months."

Like the preacher in "How Green was My Valley" I thought men only had to hear the truth to accept it. When I did venture to raise my voice in the cause of Christ I believed that it was such a feeble presentation that I could not make the message clear. This was all too true, but I was yet to learn that men may know the truth and yet reject it. That was a bitter revelation to me. But I'm thankful that it did not deter me from preaching the gospel, but made me take up the challenge it presented and determine, with God's help, to present the message with greater force and power of life and voice.

**I REMEMBER** the words of a man who knew just what I was giving up in financial prospects, saying, "What do you want to go into the ministry for; you'll never get more than ten pounds a week in that work." I thought of those words with some amusement, for, at that time, I should never have considered myself capable of reaching such financial eminence as a preacher—nor did I care. Well, throughout the years I've never bargained with a church. It has, I am glad to say, always been "the work" that counted, and I've had the joy of seeing churches develop until there were no financial worries. With the increase of the general account, most churches found something to do with it, such as enlarging the building or putting on new annexes. And if I felt they owed me a little consideration as the ox that had trodden out the corn, I would remember that I had turned away from greater financial prospects than the church could, or was ever likely to, offer me. If you keep before you the vision splendid you won't be

★ *Writing out of his experience of years of service, a preacher, under name of Kleros, writes to those setting out on the Christian ministry and to all interested in the welfare of the preacher.*

worrying unduly about finances. And what I mean by that is, that there is nothing to take the place of dedication to a task, whatever that task may be, and most of all, if it be the preaching of the word and making full proof of your ministry.

**T**HERE have been preachers that—well, I often think of the words of the character in "The Virginian": "A middlin' doctor's a poor old thing, and a middlin' lawyer's a poor old thing, and a middlin' carpenter's a poor old thing, but save us from a middlin' man of God." Too often hungry sheep look up and have not been fed. Do you know what constitutes the first essential of a good preacher? A man that is so saturated in the word of God that, when he preaches, wells of fresh and vigorous thought are opened up and streams of comfort, healing and blessing flow from him, all having their source in the word of Life. Read other books, but read wisely, for "reading maketh a full man," and stores your mind with treasures, new and old. But don't make yourself the echo of the last book you've read. Education and intelligence should go hand in hand, and an intelligent man will let a good book stoke the fires of his mind. And whilst I'm on this matter of preaching, son, don't make the pulpit a soap-box for the proclamation of your doubts; but make it the place of consecrated preaching of the word. If you can't do that, be honest enough not to defile it. Dr. John Timothy Stone wrote, "The man who believes his beliefs and doubts his doubts is a stronger thinker than the man who doubts his beliefs and believes his doubts." Use scriptural names and terms to express yourself, and you will be on good ground. For the same reason speak where the Bible speaks—proclaim the whole counsel of God.

This talk may sound to you too much like that of Polonius, but all the same I'd like to mention one or two things further. When you are in a field and the shepherd of a flock, you'll find, perhaps, that townspeople will expect some interest from you in community life and projects. How far and how much time and interest you will care to go and give to these will be for you to decide. But if you get a letter of invitation from anyone, or all of the numerous organisations, to attend some functions, don't throw such in the waste-paper basket like some folk do with accounts, saying with a sigh, "That's settled." It isn't settled. The scriptural injunction is to "be courteous," and even if you have no opportunity or desire

to attend, at least thank them for the invitations, and that goes for acknowledging most other letters. You'll not lose anything by being courteous, but you'll gain some friends and the esteem of people who will most likely be judging the church by you. It's not unlikely they will have, though they were doing you high honor in sending you an invitation! If they come to esteem you, they'll count it an honor to have you present. Always bear in mind that many such requests will come to you because they hold the church you represent in high regard. Don't let it down. If you are in a town where there is a local newspaper, make friends of the editor and staff. Some day you may feel like basting them, especially when you come to fight social evils like the drink traffic. But don't give way to that temptation. You'll achieve more by the friendly relations you have established. Probably you'll find the editor is at heart your ally. And if he should ask you for a write-up of your latest sermon, give him the best you can, and in the number of words asked for. You never know, someone may be blessed by what you write—even yourself, for "writing maketh an exact man." You may hate the traffic in which a man engages, but never hate the man. After all, "Christ died for the ungodly." Some day, perhaps, such a man will be in need of a friend, and he'll come to you and into your hands will be given an opportunity such as you are but dreaming about now.

Paul said, "Love doth not behave itself unseemly." I could give you a lot of thoughts that spring to my mind from those words, but I'll content myself with saying that, from table manners to general dress, we should endeavor not to offend the sensibilities of others. We have a correct way of holding a knife and fork, of eating, of wearing our clothes, and so on. Without being pedantic about any of these things, let us take our places with dignity in any company. If you lack taste in ties and dress, let your tailor give you a little advice or seek it from a friend. Remember, it's other folk who have to look at you. At least have pity on them. And as the principle of dignity should apply in all our daily life, let it be positively evident in the church services. Nothing should be conducted in a slipshod way. Gawky movements and gestures can be overcome, and should be.

**T**HE best sermons I know on the ordinances of Christ are the ordinances themselves, carried out with dignity and reverence. Cultivate good speech, for it is to convey God's message to men. That larynx of yours contains the most delicate and wonderful of instruments. Few people would treat a Jew's harp the way most of us treat our vocal ligaments. What some players did to Hamlet's soul pales into insignificance beside my own writhing, tortured soul when forced to listen to some ranting, screeching preacher (not always an evangelist, but often a "speaking brother") who it seems doesn't recognise enough the privilege accorded him to give some time, thought and training to his voice, and yet the same man may be most critical of an untrained singer rendering a gospel solo.

I haven't been getting off the track by what I have been saying, for it all resolves itself into our love for the Lord, his message and his work. And while I'm talking along this line, I've often thought it strange that a preacher should give a congregation "a piece of his mind" when the majority of those gathered before him want peace of mind! You may feel like saying things from the pulpit occasionally because it's not to be expected that you will be popular with one hundred per cent. of the congregation, and you may be made to wince under criticism. If the criticism has any truth in it, learn from it. If it is wholly untrue you can afford to ignore it. Always remember



that there are many babes in Christ, and one cannot expect the thought, words and actions of a full man in Christ Jesus from them. So pray for those that do the wrong. They need your prayers. I remember Henry Ward Beecher's words, "Life would be a perpetual flea hunt if a man were obliged to run down all the inuendos, inveracities, insinuations and misrepresentations which are uttered against him." A man in any walk of life can profit by recalling those words. On no account ever come down to the level of those folk. A famous president of America was criticised for responding to a negro's salute by raising his hat. His reply was, "Would you have it said that that negro was more of a gentleman than your president?" Oh, yes, you'll find men who'll hate you without a cause, but if ever you can bring yourself to talk matters over with them you'll gain friends, and ultimately, brothers. You will be called upon to walk on troubled waters more than once, but when you do so, endeavor to bring peace and calm. "Blessed is the peacemaker." Without being facetious I'd like to point out that that latter word is not "pace-maker," though such activity may well apply in our spiritual lives.

There will be times, perhaps, when you have gloomy days. Do you know my panacea for such? Put on your hat and go out and visit some of your flock. You'll come home rejoicing that you've been able to help someone. And possibly no one will be more blessed than yourself. But don't make gloominess the excuse for not doing other work that you should do—such as Bible study, answering letters, etc. A very honored teacher used to tell us that "headaches do not bring results in examinations." Those words have remained with me throughout the years, and have always jolted me out of that temptation "to recline."

BE large in your thinking. Never imagine that in organising concerts, tea parties or socials that you are necessarily fulfilling the great commission. No doubt you'll have to do a lot of that sort of thing, but if all that effort is an avenue up which you may lead folk to eternal life, it will be well worth while. It is often well worth while for the social fellowship of Christians. If you have a brother in the church who can do these things acceptably, have him or an appointed committee to do them by all means, for, after all, it is not fitting to leave the ministry of the Word to serve tables. "Lead me to a Rock that is higher than I" is the inward cry of most hearts of those who attend church services. I recall the story of a young preacher, fresh from college, who went to labor among a farming community. The people were mostly immigrants from Switzerland. The young pastor brought all his virility to the organising of concerts and what-nots in the church hall, but the folk remained strangely unmoved. They came to worship but showed no enthusiasm for his sermons (so highly commended by some city folk) on "The conflict between science and religion" and "The basic fundamentals of Spenser on philosophy." That young man was just about to resign and walk out of the ministry when he fortunately opened his heart to an older preacher. (By the way, it's a good thing to seek the counsel of some older and wiser brethren. Your official board will be able to help you, for in the multitude of counsellors there is wisdom. In any case "conference maketh a ready man.") Well, the older preacher gave him this advice. "You must get to understand these people. They come from places where the mountains tower into the sky, have been so for countless generations, and they know they will be there when this and many other generations have passed away. They know life to be a very fleeting thing; but they know, too, that the work of God standeth sure. Take a trip there, my boy, and catch something of the atmosphere that has given these folk such stolidity, and then come back and preach the message and engage in the service that will last longer than the mighty Alps, because it will go on into eternity."

## Gift Food at Lewisham

ENGLAND

(See front page photo.)

THE Women's Voluntary Service's Darby and Joan Club which meets every Monday afternoon in the Scout Hut on the Honor Oak Estate in Lewisham, held their Christmas party on Jan. 9. The hut looked festive with its colored decorations; every guest wore a gay paper hat, and at the end of the room a large trestle table was piled high with tins of steak pudding and bars of soap, a gift from the Australian Red Cross Society.

Members of the Australian Red Cross Society have worked unceasingly to send gift food to Britain, and regular shipments have been received over the past few years. The food distributed at this party was part of a magnificent consignment of 5265 cases of various meats and soap.

After tea the guests, all of them old age pensioners, joined most energetically in singing, and then the Mayoress of Lewisham, Mrs. G. R. D. Bradfield, who was accompanied by the Hon. Mrs. Rose, County of London W.V.S. organiser, and Mr. Arthur Skeffington, Member of Parliament for Lewisham, presented each guest with a gift from the table of Australian Red Cross gift food. "These gifts," the Mayoress said, "help to cement the bond of friendship between us and these friends of ours overseas. Lewisham has been favored with several gifts like these. Tins which make your mouth water to look at them, and soap, a most practical gift." This last remark brought a round of applause from the recipients, who received with their gift food a card bearing the name and address of the donors in Australia.

In the County of London the Women's Voluntary Services run 78 Darby and Joan Clubs, and eleven of these are in Lewisham. They meet once a week for tea, games, music and sometimes film shows and concerts. These clubs fulfil a great need in large towns, where it is so easy for old people to be very lonely. If any members do not attend the weekly meetings, one of the W.V.S. helpers calls to see if they are ill or need help. This club has been running for three years, and at no party held this Christmas was there a happier atmosphere than at this one in the Scout Hall, where the gifts from unknown friends in Australia completed the success of the afternoon.

FEDERAL  
PRESIDENT

## Calling All Women

IT is a great honor and privilege, as Federal president, to have this opportunity of sending a greeting. Let our motto for this year be, "God, our Supreme Leader," not attempting to build a new world in our own strength, for "except God build the house, they labor in vain that build it." The New Year has opened before us, the unknown lies ahead, and the old year has gone. I pray this year will be a very momentous one in the history of our churches, for life begins again with new schemes, new dreams, and new determinations for better things. This is the year that womanhood all over the world will be hard at work on the "Crusade for a Christian World." As women, we must take a worthy share of the responsibilities which our local churches have in the crusade. Let us list a few plans:

**Devotional Life.**—Because of the express need to undergird the crusade with effective prayer—for prayer is the wavelength to success, the kilocycle by which God speaks to the soul—let us keep our spiritual radio set turned on constantly.

**Christian Family Life.**—Recognising that Christian families are the foundation of a Christian world.

**Social Education and Action.**—Recognising that Government is what we make it, or what we let it become, I would urge that women of our churches take seriously their legislative responsibilities as alert, intelligent citizens, and that we act in co-operation with other church women on important issues.

To-day I believe God is entrusting to woman a special vision and a special service—a vision of a world made one through a church made one; a vision of swords made into ploughshares; a vision of atomic energy used to heal and to serve mankind; a vision of homes where God dwells and children laugh, for the home is the nation's strength and God's abiding-place.

Let us be a band of women united together with one purpose—"Service to God"—out to build a better and a brighter world. Let us beware of comfort that stifles enthusiasm. We discover that leadership goes to the man and woman who takes his leadership from God. May this be so with all who lead in God's army of women throughout our churches this year. There is much to be done, but with God's help we can do it. These very lovely lines come to my mind as I send this message:

"Another year for thee is now commencing,  
Another volume of thy life to be;  
No page of it canst thou thyself turn over,  
Nor read therein the things concerning thee.  
It lies unopened—sealed with God's own signet.  
No hand but his can turn its pages o'er,  
No mind but his its mysteries can fathom,  
Nor grasp the wonders of its hidden lore.  
But every day a fresh, fair page will he show thee,  
And thou canst leave the working of his will.  
With childlike faith mayst thou accept the teaching,  
And trust him, love him, glorify him still!"

In all humbleness I seek your continued prayers for the success of our Federal conference.

Faithfully your friend and servant, Ann Madel-Cole, Hobart, Tas.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN



# Development at Baramati

MR. JOHN BAIRAGI, who has charge of the educational work and the friendship centre, tells of developments and the need for consolidation.

"Since your last letter, the board has confirmed my study furlough. Please convey to members my heartfelt gratitude, and my sincere thanks for leave and extra financial assistance. I would like to thank the board for the projector for use in the friendship centre. The C.O.M. has decided to give me the projector Mr. Thomas has, and for him to have the one intended for the friendship centre for use in Australia while on furlough.

"The work in the friendship centre is growing. It is a golden opportunity to make contacts with the caste people, and thus make the way smooth for the presentation of the gospel. Friendliness is the first thing needed, and we are trying to do our best to show the people the spirit of friendliness. I feel the work in the friendship centre needs consolidating.

"School work also is going on very well. There are three branches to the vocational class—woodwork, gardening and tailoring. All the arable land in our mission station should be cultivated and put to good use. The school well will have its own pump, and then more work can be done in the field. The boys of the home, supported by the mission, should grow their own grains and vegetables. All grains and vegetables required by these boys should be produced by them with the help of some adult labor. If this is done, then we shall be doing really useful work. This work needs consolidating. Such work should not be dependent on missionaries, who may be transferred, and the work likely to come to a standstill. I am trying to get the local people—that is, the teachers—to manage this work, so that it can go on when missionaries are transferred or on leave.

"A new rule has come into force regarding primary schools. Government is going to take over all primary schools. Some private schools will be allowed to exist. They shall not be called "assisted schools" as at present, but "approved schools." These schools may receive grant-in-aid. Two conditions have to be fulfilled for grant-in-aid. We have to pay salaries according to Government scale, and in the final government exam. there should be 60 per cent. passes. The latter we have been maintaining for the last few years, and it can be maintained provided we have efficient staff.

"The friendship centre and the school can, together, be a force for good in this town, and through these means can present the gospel to the educated classes in Baramati. The day is not far away when all the evangelistic work in Baramati will be done by the friendship centre. I hope I can come quickly to Australia, soon after my Serampore course, to arouse enthusiasm for completing the friendship centre, and for help for the high school."



## A NEW PARTNERSHIP

FOR many years it was the earnest desire of the home board and the Indian mission to give higher status and to pass more responsibility over to Indian workers. Apart from spiritual qualifications, such workers would also need qualities of leadership and higher education.

At the last meeting of the board, it was determined that workers deemed to have the necessary qualifications would become Indian missionaries, and stand beside their Australian brethren in equal standing.

Mr. John Bairagi, B.D., who entered the mission as a national associate, was in effect already an Indian missionary, and now Mr. Hariba Waghmode, B.A., returning to India, enters immediately into that relationship.

We ask the brotherhood to pray that this partnership will be one of lasting fellowship, and help greatly the cause of Christ in India, and furthermore, to remember that each worker thus added means an additional missionary with its equivalent financial obligation.



## BAPTISMS ON FIELDS

DURING the Christmas season, the following places reported additions to the church—Baramati, India, 12; Diksal, India, 1; Pentecost, New Hebrides, 4. These, in addition to 14 recently reported from Shrigonda, India, and 28 from the new village in Pentecost, reveal that the Spirit of God is stirring in the hearts of the people.



Baptisms in an Island Setting.  
Mr. Jack Smith, of Pentecost, baptising converts in the sea.

# New Zealand News and Views

E. P. C. Hollard.

NEW ZEALAND made world headlines recently when the election results were made known. As time passes, it becomes obvious that this was one election in which considerable thought had been exercised by voters. That can be discerned in the fact that the people who voted the Government out were the recipients of much whilst that party was in power. Many opinions are offered for the change, and some may be near the truth. Many agree that the time had come when a healthy fear had settled upon the people. There was the fear that control would run riot, that Socialism might quickly move into Communism. For myself I see it as something which is not local, but part of a striking of a balance after the "hangover" from the war.

Many big things had been attempted and accomplished under the Labor regime, and the incoming Nationalists have a standard to maintain.

On the night of the elections, it became obvious which way the wind was blowing; most people remained listening to the radio until the two leaders spoke to the nation. When Mr. Fraser made his comment, many felt that they were losing a friend. However, the utterance of Mr. Hollard, the new Prime Minister, was as fine a statement as one could ever wish to hear. Among other things he said, "I have been called, to high office, not to dominate, but to serve, and I pray for divine guidance, without which success will be impossible."

One interesting thing about the new Government is the number of strong Christians in it; not nominal church men, but Christian men. Not least among them is our own E. P. Aderman, who was returned with a larger majority.

The new film censor, Mr. Gordon Mirams, has invoked a regulation said to have been introduced in 1916 regarding the suitability of some films for universal exhibition. It has been the custom to advertise some films as "not suitable for general exhibition" and leave it at that, with the result that children have flocked in to see them. I well remember a gangster film, "Dillinger," advertised thus, but the children just teemed to see it. Some time before I had read a note by Dr. Kershner to the effect that in Indianapolis the same film was responsible for a wave of juvenile crime. Mr. Mirams is to be commended; he has the right to clean them up through censorship. One movie house has inserted a note in connection with the controversial film, "No Room at the Inn," to this

effect, "Please do not embarrass us by bringing the children."

Recently the Chancellor of the New Zealand University, the Hon. Sir David Smith, attacked scientific humanism, Communists in academic circles, and disintegration of world morals. Sir David, is a Christian man, and his speech was a broadside. He objected to scientific humanism on the ground that it shirked the challenge of the supernatural. To him human life is not self-contained, for we must meet not only our fellow man but our God. "The university should be a place of resolute and untiring pursuit of truth in matters of the highest significance." However, when he proceeded to deal with the Communist elements in academic life, he became most outspoken. His method would be to remove them at one fell stroke, and at the same time remove their insidious effects on academic life.

Naturally there were rejoinders, but they seemed so small in view of the trenchant blast which the Chancellor had delivered. It is heartening to find such men speaking forcibly for God.

Two virile opponents of the World Council of churches have made a fleeting visit to New Zealand. They were Dr. T. T. Shields and Carl McIntyre, of America. They declared that opposition to them and their message was greater in New Zealand than in any other country they had visited. In Wellington, one of their meetings had assembled when they had to remove to another hall. Without arguing the rights or wrongs of their visit and their attitude, there are many who feel that they are not altogether wrong, even though they may not be altogether right.

All roads from Empire outposts lead to Auckland where the Empire Games are being held. Over 500 athletes are gathered, and the whole country is games conscious. One of our own church families, through Harold Nelson, of Dunedin, will represent New Zealand.

Speaking of sport, it is interesting to note that, since the doubles tote has been a fixture here, betting figures have soared higher and yet higher. Over the holiday period, on one day, the increase in betting at five race meetings amounted to £41,307.

A link with early days has snapped in the passing of Mrs. John Ingles Wright, of Dunedin. With her husband she exercised a considerable influence among churches. In Nelson our esteemed overseas missions secretary, Mr. Percy Bolton, has been called on to part with his wife. She was a sufferer for some time.

Campers assembled at Matamata over New Year, with 120 young people.



# COMMONWEALTH ROUND-UP

## Here and There

MRS. A. M. HANSEN, of Avonsleigh, Vic., reports she, too, has subscribed to "The Australian Christian" and to "The Pioneer" since 1897. Mrs. Hansen will be known to many as the mother of Mr. Reg. Sparks, of Box Hill.

Several Melbourne churches have enjoyed fellowship with Mr. and Mrs. Swanson, of Edinburgh, Scotland. They expect to attend the conference of churches in New Zealand, and then journey to America. Mr. Swanson is an elder of church at Edinburgh.

Mrs. George H. Stewart, of Winnipeg, has been named chairman of the All-Canada Committee of the churches of Christ in Canada. Mrs. Stewart, the first woman to hold this position, is the widow of George H. Stewart, the first All-Canada chairman, who held the position for 18 years; he was also world president.

L. W. G. Duff-Forbes, who is general secretary for Australasia of the Biblical Research Society, has conducted an extensive itinerary of meetings and broadcast addresses throughout the United States of America and Canada. After six weeks in Israel, he is returning to Australia via Europe, England and America. It is expected that he will arrive home in April, and will bring with him first-hand information of present-day conditions in Israel.

Prior to leaving for India, Bruce Munro paid an appreciated visit to church at Taree, N.S.W., morning and evening on Jan. 8, visiting Comboyne for gospel service same afternoon. After spending four weeks' holiday with his wife and children, A. B. Clark returned from Queensland, speaking at both services on Jan. 22. Appreciated help was rendered by R. W. Hume during preacher's absence on holidays. Mr. Hume has been assisting church at Wingham for several months.

Seven members of the United States Senate are listed as Disciples of Christ. These are Senator Virgil Champman of Kentucky, Senator Zales E. Ecton of Montana, Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, Senator Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas, Senator Harley M. Kilgore of West Virginia, Senator Glen H. Taylor of Idaho, and Senator Elmer Thomas of Oklahoma. All but Senator Ecton are Democrats.

Attendances on Feb. 5, at Rockhampton, Qld., were highest since holiday period. 74 broke bread during day, and there were 78, including a number of visitors, at gospel service. D. W. Tonkin preached again with power. Vocal duet entitled "Alone" was rendered by Mrs. Tonkin and Mr. J. Cooke. Bible school re-opened on Feb. 5 with good attendance and eight new scholars. All auxiliaries are working again. On Jan. 30, members enjoyed sea-side outing at Emu Park, where an open-air choral service was conducted, and then an open-air meeting at Yeppoon, all with the aid of amplifier system. Mr. and Mrs. Christensen and family, from Rosewood church in West Moreton circuit, are now residing in Westwood, and were in fellowship on Feb. 5.

Meetings at Carnegie, Vic., are returning to normal after holiday period, and auxiliaries have re-commenced. Doug Nicholls addressed morning meeting on Jan. 22 on aborigines mission work. J. Wiltshire gave an interesting lantern lecture on Jan. 24. Attendances at all services lately have been encouraging, H. R. Coventry speaking. At close of his address at gospel meeting on Feb. 5, two lads from Bible school made good confession. At morning worship, Feb. 12, D. D. Stewart, of East Malvern, was speaker. Mrs. E. Phillips and A. Meyer have been present at morning services after illness. Max Patterson met with accident, and is in Alfred Hospital; his condition is improving. Mr. Giles was appointed new leader of K.S.P. club on Feb. 10.

We have been advised that the committee of the Preachers' Provident Fund has allotted interest and subsidy for 1949. Preachers contributing to the fund are requested to send pass books to the treasurer, Mr. H. E. Bell, 26 Robinson-st., Chatswood, N.S.W.

J. E. Brooke will give address at commencement session of the Federal College of the Bible, in Lygon-st. chapel, on Monday, Feb. 20. Bambrard. church choir will provide special music. All friends are urged to make this meeting one of great encouragement for new and returning students.

Graduates of Federal College of the Bible, who are attending Australian universities, should apply immediately to secretary, K. A. Jones, if they desire to participate in the T. E. Rofe settlement, which provides bursaries for those approved by the college board. Applicants who have already done university work should provide information of their results and progress.

The Women's World Day of Prayer will be held Friday, Feb. 24, 1950, in Melbourne, services are planned in Baptist Church, Collins-st., sessions being: 11 to 12, leader Mrs. A. W. Cleland, speaker being Mrs. Pearson Harrison; 12.30 to 1.30, leader, Mrs. C. E. Tapp; 2.30 to 4, leader, Mrs. J. H. Chesterfield, speaker being Dr. M. Prescott. Girls' session will be held in reception room, Assembly Hall, Collins-st., Melbourne, at 8 p.m. Afternoon service will be broadcast over national stations from 3.30.

At Cottonville, S.A., on Jan. 28, J. E. Brooke conducted closing services of his six years' ministry. His services greatly strengthened church. Mr. Brooke left for Melbourne by plane. About 20 people farewelled him. Church enjoyed fellowship with Hariba Waghmode on Jan. 8. He addressed Sunday school on that day, being first school for year. New lighting has been installed in chapel, as part of plan to improve interior. Mrs. Shearing died on Feb. 3, after brief illness. Sympathy has been expressed to those who mourn, including W. Ferris on death of his mother.

Many of our churches will have a visitation evangelism programme during the last year of the crusade. Experience has proven that adequate preparation is absolutely essential for success during the week of visitation. It is not enough to compile a list of names to be given to the visitors. All people on your list should be cultivated by visits from the minister and other members, by sending them church literature, by invitations to church activities, by correspondence. After several months of such cultivation, you will know who are really prospects, and the week of visitation will be one of victory and joy.

Bible school, kindergarten and other clubs at Gardiner, Vic., have resumed full activities after the holidays. Young Women's Fellowship had first meeting for year on Feb. 7, when a demonstration of cake decorating was given by Mrs. F. Burbidge. On Jan. 29 Mr. Bolduan spoke concerning the World Council of Churches. Visitors at morning meeting on Feb. 5 were Mrs. and Miss Ruth Roberts, and Bruce Munro, en route for India, gave a challenging sermon. Mr. Bolduan was speaker at gospel meeting. Mrs. Bolduan was speaker at Women's Mission Band's first meeting for year. Mr. Bolduan was speaker at both meetings on Feb. 12. C. Young attended Men's Fellowship meeting, and told of some of his experiences as hospital chaplain. At quarterly meeting of Bible school, held on Feb. 12, Mr. Buckmaster tendered his resignation as superintendent.

## Responsibilities of Man

### NO HAPPINESS WITHOUT FAITH

MATERIAL well-being, unless accompanied by spiritual faith and obedience, could not bring real happiness to mankind, said H. G. Norris, at Unley church of Christ, Feb. 5.

Selfishness, with every man for himself and no concern for the rights and needs of others, was the ruling order to-day.

In selfish possession of things, man was but building newer and more terrible armaments of self-destruction. Selfishness would disintegrate mankind and rob individuals of security and happiness.

Against the modern emphasis on higher wages and shorter working hours, Jesus asserted that man had responsibilities as well as rights, and that service was the test of worth.

Man's need was not for new institutions, new systems of government, nor "turning over a new leaf." These were a mere tinkering with the world's problem. Man's need was a new spirit in man.

Education and reformation could polish up what was in us, but could not change our natures. Whether Christ could change us and replace man's destructive selfishness with constructive service depended on how ready we were to yield to him. It was Christ's way, or disaster for man.—"The Advertiser," S.A.



## Missionary Meeting.

### WELCOME-FAREWELL

MISSIONARY history was made on Tuesday, Feb. 1, when the Victorian Overseas Committee arranged a tea and meeting to welcome home Mr. and Mrs. Colin V. Thomas and family, on their second furlough from India, and to farewell Mr. and Mrs. Roy C. Dixon and Sister Gwen I. Batterham, of Victoria, of the Federal College of the Bible, Glen Iris; Sister Ruth C. Roberts, of Queensland; and Mr. Bruce R. Munro, of Woolwich Bible College, N.S.W., the largest party to proceed to "Our India." The functions were held at Lygon-st. chapel. At 6 p.m., 70 guests, including many relatives of the missionaries, enjoyed an excellent meal prepared by Mrs. Lowery and her helpers. Greetings of welcome and farewell were brought by R. Ennis, D. A. Cockroft, Mrs. Ploog, H. J. Patterson, of Woolwich college, and E. L. Williams, of Federal college, Sister L. Foreman, Mrs. Hodges, Dr. W. A. Kemp, and J. E. Allan, on behalf of Ann-st. church, Brisbane.

At 8 p.m., in spite of rain, chapel was filled. The chairman, J. Turner, presided over both gatherings. An organ recital, by Miss M. E. Pittman, opened meeting, and prayer was offered by Don. V. Thomas, and C. H. J. Wright read scriptures. Dr. G. H. Oldfield, representing brotherhood and Overseas Committee, in a welcome-farewell message, thanked Mr. and Mrs. Colin V. Thomas for splendid work, and wished outgoing party, including Hariba Waghmode, God's richest blessing in India. Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Thomas thanked all for a loving welcome and told of various aspects of work in India. In well-chosen words outgoing workers responded to Dr. Oldfield's message. Appropriate solos by Mrs. N. Cuthbert and Mrs. M. Gullidge, contributed to devotional atmosphere of meeting. Hearty congregational singing was a feature of an inspiring and enthusiastic missionary gathering. W. G. Graham, conference secretary, closed meeting with prayer of dedication. On Tuesday, Feb. 7, a large company assembled on "Strathaird" to wish party bon voyage. As liner sailed away at 11.30 p.m., singing of "God be With You" was an impressive conclusion of an historic missionary experience.



# News of the Churches



## Tasmania

Launceston (Margaret-st.).—There were average attendances for January: 11 a.m., 93; 7 p.m., 96; communion, 103. S. H. Wilson recently visited isolated members living in West Tamar area. Alan Costellow has been received into membership on transfer from Caveside. Lloyd Cooke preached at gospel service, Jan. 22. All auxiliaries have re-commenced activities following Christmas break. Assembly day for Bible school was held, Feb. 5. Following evening service, a fellowship hour was held to bid farewell to Miss May Sparkes and Ben Crowden, leaving to enter Glen Iris college. Presentations were made on behalf of State College Committee and the Margaret-st. church. Recent visitors have included Mr. and Mrs. James (East Kew), Mr. and Mrs. Bell (Prospect, S.A.), Mr. and Mrs. Elliott (East Kew), Mr. Edgington (Parkdale) and Mrs. Smart (Carnegie). Mrs. Riley, of Winnaleah, received her home-call on Jan. 17. Mrs. Riley was an isolated member, and though advanced in years and in failing health, maintained a keen interest in congregation.

## Queensland

Annerley.—Church conducted a number of functions over Christmas period, carol singing in district, a combined break-up of boys' and girls' clubs, and a pageant of "Birth of the Master" held Christmas night. Two families have been added by transfer: Mr. and Mrs. McLean and John, from Kingsford, and Mr. and Mrs. McNicol, with Mrs. Holden, from Gympie. Roy Williams, a Sunday school scholar, accepted Christ, and was baptised by Mr. Latimer. A youth council has been formed to co-ordinate work of young people and to make suggestions for improvement of various activities. Annual business meeting of church was held on Feb. 1. Work progresses favorably under C. Latimer; a mission has been planned for March, with emphasis on visitation evangelism.

## South Australia

Norwood.—Although members have been holidaying good meetings have been maintained. Messrs. Ingham, English and Heath occupied pulpit in absence of Mr. Jones on holidays. Mrs. Ferrett was welcomed on Jan. 8. Prayer meetings commenced Feb. 1 with good attendance. Christian Youth Fellowship commenced Feb. 5 with Mr. Coventry as speaker. In evening Mr. Coventry showed colored slides on Indian work. His visit was greatly appreciated. Plans are in hand to commence boys' gymnasium. Large shed at rear of church is to be converted into workshop for boys' club.

Enfield Heights.—Church services have been maintained during past three months. Brethren from churches at Nailsworth and Prospect, and departments of conference have addressed church. On Feb. 5 the inaugural service was held. Dr. Trevor Turner welcomed twelve foundation members on behalf of brotherhood, and gave an appropriate crusade message. With visitors, 28 took communion. Mr. Bunyan, from Prospect church, has taken over superintendency of Bible school. Many new scholars have been added. On Feb. 12 transport was arranged to bring children from new "Trust" homes. A. J. Fisher, of Nailsworth, has canvassed part of district, and was well received. Appreciation is expressed to all who helped to establish this cause.

Prospect.—Mr. and Mrs. Patching were welcomed. S. Riches spoke in morning. On Jan. 30, church picnic was held at Christies Beach. On Tuesday, midweek fellowship meeting was held, and on Wednesday the young married ladies' group held a meeting to which all ladies of church were invited. Mrs. Bruce Coventry was speaker. Junior girls' and boys' clubs have recommenced their meetings for year. On Feb. 5 S. Patching spoke at both services.

Nailsworth.—Bible school has resumed after holidays. On Jan. 30 a successful "mystery picnic" was held, when many young people went to Aldgate Valley and enjoyed facilities of church property. On Feb. 5 A. Farrow exhorted in morning and A. J. Fisher preached at night, both meetings being well attended. The offering for aborigines mission was over £14. A team of young people has conducted gospel services at Cheltenham and Dulwich, rendering good service to church.

Kilburn.—A. Roberts, of Prospect, conducted 11.15 a.m. service on Feb. 5, when 33 adults and 28 young worshippers attended. F. Collins gave helpful message, and also conducted 7 p.m. gospel service, 22 being present. At 10 a.m. Bible school attendance was 96. F. Lawrance supervised school and Sister C. Kelly, kindergarten, during absence of Mr. and Mrs. Peacock on holiday leave for five weeks. Aborigines offering exceeded £5. Plans are being made to commence new Intermediate C.E. on March 29.

Fullarton.—Church has congratulated two local young ladies, who obtained first and second places in studies at Adelaide Bible Institute, Misses Joan Niemann and Valma Young. On Feb. 5 morning service was fairly well attended, some still being on holidays. B. W. Manning gave a good presentation of morning lesson. At evening service B. W. Manning preached an interesting sermon on prophecy to a good audience. Choir sang an item, also leading with song service prior to gospel service.

Pt. Pirie.—Average attendances for January have been as follows: Breaking of bread, 34; gospel service, 45; communicants, 39. Many members have been on holidays, causing attendances to be less. Other members are about to leave on vacation. Mr. and Mrs. Barton and family leave this week for Tasmania on holidays, Mr. Barton having recovered from a throat operation. F. L. Pillar has left for a business trip to England, being away for several months. Y.P.S.C.E. society commenced meetings on Feb. 7 with consecration

service. Church has been delighted to welcome many visitors in January; they benefited services during absence of many local members. Average weekly offerings to general, brotherhood and renovation funds have been down on previous months. Special donations to Christian Rest Home yielded £3/2/9. "Friendly Word" is proving an asset in bringing to notice of members church quarterly financial statement. Bible school has carried on with difficulty through school's vacation, many teachers being away on holidays.

Adelaide (Grote-st.).—Attendances at the services which had fallen off during the holiday season are now improving. Church appreciates help of brethren who have ably assisted with preaching: A. J. Ingham, H. R. Taylor, C. Schwab, A. Mercer, B. W. Manning, G. Ellis and D. K. Beiler. On Jan. 26, Will Beiler was sufficiently recovered from his illness to give the morning message. He was heartily welcomed; church prays for his complete recovery. Frank Willing has resigned as conductor of choir, and Will Watson, who recently returned to S.A., has been appointed to position. Will Palmer, choir secretary for 25 years, has also resigned. At a social gathering of choir, members and church officers, presentations were made to both retiring officers.

Croydon.—Several have been received into fellowship by transfer during January—Mr. and Mrs. Aird, from Mile End; Mr. and Mrs. King, from Forestville; Mr. and Mrs. Vincent, from Cheltenham. Meetings are well maintained. Clubs have re-commenced work for year. Newly appointed officers for the K.S.P. club are: Chancellor, R. Bailey; vice-chancellor, D. Hele; scribe, L. Brookes; purser, N. Beaumont. Officers recently elected to men's class at Bible school: President, J. Pickup; vice-president, D. J. Lawrie; secretary, W. Battersby. Manse fund, recently inaugurated, is encouraging, being augmented by weekly offerings. Members were gladdened by presence on Jan. 29 of H. Dempster, who has been absent through illness for a lengthy period. Mr. Battle, choir leader, is an inmate of Memorial Hospital. Average attendance for January: a.m., 95; p.m., 87.

## New South Wales

Kingsford.—Meetings have been small over holidays, but a married woman and Geoff Porter, son of late George Porter, have made good confession. There is much sickness among members. Doug Smith secured his B.A. degree at Sydney University.

Wollongong.—During preacher's holidays church received messages from David Medlow, Mr. Leask and C. Thompson. On Feb. 5 Warrawong Sunday school held its opening session. Attendance was spoilt by heavy rain, but 16 were present. Mr. Sutherland gave messages both morning and evening in absence of Mr. Jones at Osford, where 32 young people attended a week-end camp.

Rockdale.—During Mr. Andrews' absence on holidays, church is indebted to Messrs. Hallop and Gilbertsen for conducting services. Visitors included Mr. and Mrs. Goode, of Murwillumbah, and Mr. and Mrs. Finger, of Brisbane. W. Oldfield is convalescing at home, after recent operations. R. Allen is in hospital. Meetings continue to be well attended. Ron Saunders, of Bexley North, exhorted ably on Jan. 29, and Mr. Andrews presented gospel. On Feb. 5 meetings were smaller owing to inclement weather; a lad from Caringbah church was immersed.

Chatswood.—Attendances are back to normal. R. V. Amos spoke at both services on Jan. 15 to good congregations. Speakers for Jan. 22 were: J. A. Luff, of Enmore, and Mr. Amos. College for Christians, held each Wednesday evening, is proving helpful. During January Dr. A. C. Crisp gave a series of talks which proved most helpful. On Jan. 25 C. Wilson Reid, of the People's Christian Fellowship, baptised five who had confessed faith in Christ. On Jan. 29 R. V. Amos addressed two

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good gatherings, and at close of gospel service a young lady and a young man confessed Christ, and two other young ladies reconsecrated their lives.

**Earlwood.**—A. Hinrichsen has returned after vacation at Katoomba. During his absence Messrs. MacMillan, Graham, Mansell, Cook and Clymer gave helpful messages. Meetings on Feb. 5 were good despite bad weather. C. Taylor, from Belmore, exhorted church at morning service. A. Hinrichsen preached in evening. Bible school, under leadership of O. Turner, is making fair progress and training for anniversary. On Feb. 14 Miss Shirley Francis and Robert Clymer were married, and have left to take up the work at Roma, Qld. Several young folk spent pleasant and profitable time at camps. All auxiliaries have resumed. Congratulations to Royce Greenup and Jim Smith, who secured honors in recent school examinations.

## Victoria

**Geelong.**—On Jan. 29 Mr. Anderson spoke at both services, and choir resumed after Christmas vacation. Young Worshipers' League and Junior Endeavor Societies resumed on Feb. 5. Mr. Anderson exhorted church. At evening service Mr. Anderson spoke, and illustrated his theme by a sound film. Choir rendered two items.

**Middle Park.**—On Jan. 22 Mr. Keatch resumed ministry after vacation. Church has enjoyed fellowship with former members, including Mrs. A. Baker and daughter, of Lidcombe, N.S.W. Quarterly united meeting with local Baptist church was held on Jan. 29; Mr. Keatch preached gospel address. A successful Bible school picnic was held on Jan. 30 at Mt. Evelyn, a day of fellowship being enjoyed with parents. Mrs. Annear was welcomed back after several months of illness.

**West Preston.**—After a long and painful illness, Mrs. J. D. Lang was called to higher service on Feb. 8. A foundation member, she was greatly loved and esteemed by all who were privileged to know her. The sympathy of church is with Mr. Lang and family in their sorrow. Best wishes have been extended to Miss June Mortyn, who is proceeding to Sydney to prepare for medical overseas-mission work. Annual offering for aborigines' work has reached a record total, £30/12/.

**Carlton (Lygon-st.)**—Well-attended meetings have marked commencement of J. E. Brooke's ministry. On Feb. 3 Mr. and Mrs. Brooke and family were guests to tea with members of the official board and their wives. In evening 90 members and friends gathered at a public welcome. R. Enniss was chairman, J. Rankin spoke on behalf of church, Mrs. G. Berry for ladies, and K. A. Jones, as a visitor and former co-preacher with Mr. Brooke. Mr. Brooke responded. During supper opportunity was given to members to meet new minister and family. At morning service on Feb. 5, Mr. Enniss presented Mr. Brooke with a copy of Moffatt's translation of Bible, on behalf of church. All auxiliaries, except Y.P.S.C.E., have commenced activities for year.

**Echuca.**—Services, reasonably attended, were taken by local brethren whilst church was without a preacher. Mr. and Mrs. Hargreaves have commenced ministry and were given a public welcome on Jan. 24, which was attended by mayor and ministers of various churches and chaired by W. Gale. All clubs and auxiliaries are in recess except Sunday school which resumed on Feb. 5. Some young church members, who are keen cyclists, met with an accident. Roy Merlo, Peter Beyer, Kevin and Albert Thompson spent a period in hospital; latter is still a patient. Church secretary, Mr. Rosendale, has improved greatly in health. Church member conducted carols by candle-light on Christmas Eve, and gave proceeds, £41/6/, to Health Centre building appeal. Reg. Rosendale and Peter Beyer attended young people's camp. Visitors from Kerang met with church on Feb. 5, and Paul Payne, a past member, kindly officiated at organ.

**Portland.**—G. Stevenson preached on Jan. 22. Church had fellowship with C. Jackel on 28th. Mr. Jackel's message was appreciated. Many visitors continue to have fellowship. Church received a blessing by taking part in convention.

**Newmarket.**—On Jan. 29, Mr. McKenzie spoke at both services. Cricket club held church parade at gospel service, Mrs. McKenzie being soloist. On Feb. 5 Mr. McKenzie addressed both services; Mr. Concur, of Ascot Vale, presided at morning meeting.

**Maidstone.**—Evening service on Jan. 29 was helped greatly by items by K. Alexander, of St. Kilda, and Mrs. Randall. Church has been heartened by first confession of faith, expressed by married woman on Feb. 5. Sunday school numbers are increasing after holidays, 147 being in attendance on Sunday last. Three people, a young married couple, and mother of two Bible school scholars, confessed Christ on Feb. 12. Attendances have increased over past few weeks. Address by W. T. Atkin, of Social Service Dept., on morning of 12th, was appreciated.

**Golden Square.**—Christmas treat for cradle roll, kinders and primary children, at Eaglehawk gardens, Dec. 17, was enjoyed by old and young. On Christmas eve C.E. members distributed Christmas cakes to aged and infirm people of district, and sang carols. Bible school and Endeavor society have resumed activities following Christmas and New Year vacation. C.E. meetings maintain a high standard, H. Doney being speaker at consecration meeting on Jan. 17. The boys were in charge of meeting on Jan. 24, taking "Soldiers of Cross" as theme.

**Croydon.**—At annual meeting held in October, reports show work of church and various auxiliaries is healthy. Mr. Clinton accepted invitation to continue his ministry during 1950, and F. Burden was elected secretary, H. Steele, treasurer. On Jan. 15, in absence of Mr. Clinton, who was helping conduct a C.S.S.M. beach mission at Sorrento, Messrs. Cooper and Steele conducted services. A good number gathered to hear H. Mears, one-time missionary in India, and now giving religious instruction in State schools in Western District, preach the gospel on Jan. 8. Sister Bridges celebrated her 91st birthday recently; although confined to her bed she is bright.

**Mt. Evelyn.**—During holidays many visitors attended. Arthur Thorrowgood exhorted church, and his daughter sang a solo. Other interstate visitors were: Mr. and Mrs. Norman Warwick, of Boonah, Qld., and Mrs. C. H. Pratt and Valma, of Tilbury, who sang helpfully. Messrs. Grenfell, of Bambra-rd., Smedley, of Coburg, and Benash, of Bentleigh, congratulated and encouraged young church in presiding messages. Church has placed a wayside pulpit and advertisement on railway station. Much anxiety has been felt for serious condition of Mr. Pedley, who has been in St. Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne, with heart trouble. £25 was paid off building site in December.

**Boronia.**—Sister Gwen Batterham, who sailed for Indian mission field on Feb. 7, was farewelled by church, and presented with a watch. Church added to her equipment a medical case and camera. Mrs. Hadlam is resting in Stratherne Convalescent Home. Mrs. Treharne and H. R. Chandler have not been well. Mrs. Jordan, sen., is improved in health. Congratulations were offered to Audrey Batterham, Thelma Goodwin and Perc. Mann on passing of examinations. Plans are completed for Sunday school and church picnic at Seaford, anniversary and choral competition. Recent visiting speakers have been Dr. W. A. Kemp and E. L. Williams. School hall has been let to State school. Cricket club has reached final four.

**Gardenvale.**—Old year closed with many happy gatherings. A Christmas tree was arranged by Joy Club. Kindergarten had a party and Christmas tree. Carol service was held on Dec. 18. All auxiliaries are back to normal. Average attendance at worship service has been 43. Building is now free of debt. B grade tennis team is 3rd on list. In absence of Mr. and Mrs. Hunt on holidays, Mr. Sumpton ably conducted services.

**Blackburn.**—Annual meeting of church was held on Jan. 26. D. Smith and E. Patterson were added to board of officers. A presentation was made to W. Bluhm in recognition of his 27 years of faithful service as church treasurer. R. Malcolm was elected to this position. All auxiliaries have resumed after Christmas vacation. Evening service of Feb. 5 was taken by young people, K. A. Jones being speaker. Church attendances are increasing, and on Feb. 12 there was the record attendance at Sunday school of 149, including 50 in kindergarten. During Mr. Neighbour's absence on holidays, services have been taken by Mr. Hodgins and E. Patterson. Mrs. Henwood is home after a few weeks in hospital.

**Colac.**—On Jan. 15 Mr. Anderson, of Latrobe-terrace, Geelong, journeyed to Colac and gave an encouraging address, and on 22nd Mr. Candy, of Swan Hill, was speaker. On 28th Miss Louie Kyatt was married to E. Brown, Mr. Burr officiating. On Feb. 5 Mr. Pierce presided and gave an interesting address. A kinder class has been formed by Mrs. Andrews, and meets at 11 o'clock, which allows mothers to attend communion service. On 4th, 27 men and 4 ladies, under direction of Messrs. A. Feary and Hunting, of Ballarat, journeyed to Colac to paint chapel. Arriving about 8 o'clock, they proceeded to clean, repair and paint building, only stopping to partake of good things provided by ladies. Work proceeded speedily, and first coat of paint was completed early. After tea workers returned to their homes in Ballarat. They plan to return on March 4 to give second coat of paint, and to complete the repairs. Colac brethren appreciate this help of Ballarat church.

## ADDRESSES

A. Anderson (secretary of Federal Foreign Mission Board).—261 Magill-rd., Trinity Gardens, S.A.

H. R. Phillips (secretary Glenelg church, S.A.).—25 King-st., Brighton. Phone, C.3020. Evenings X7701.

E. J. Sewell (preacher of Cottesloe church, W.A.).—14 Broome-st., Mosman Park.

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Discount of 10 per cent. to Sunday Schools.

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315 Collins-st., Melbourne.

## SITUATION VACANT

Missioner required by the Melbourne City Mission. Married, capable take charge of Mission Hall and district. Apply first by letter, detail experiences to Secretary, 280 Exhibition-st., Melbourne.

## DEATH

**LANG.**—On Feb. 8, Elsie, loved wife of J. Doug. Lang, of 5 Charles-st., Preston (late of Brighton); loving mother of Norman, Elsie (Mrs. Frecker) and Harold, sister of Mrs. T. W. T. Greenway, Wagga, N.S.W.

"In me ye shall have peace."

## THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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## TO LET

All electric two-room flat, Sorrento. Accommodate four, vacant Feb. 18-26; Mar. 5-25; Apr. 1-5; Apr. 14 onwards.—C. Gadge, 49 Springfield-rd., Blackburn. WX1349.

Furnished holiday cottage in hills (Kalorama). Accommodate five. Close to bus, store and post office.—W. Fordham, Montrose Post Office.

Holiday shack, Sorrento. Accommodate four people. Water, electric light. £2/10/- week. Vacant from Mar. 14-18; Mar. 31-Apr. 6; Apr. 18-May 7; June 5-Sept. 16.—C. Gadge, 49 Springfield-rd., Blackburn. WX1349.

## BIRTHS

**BROUGH** (nee Anderson).—On January 20, at St. Andrews Hospital, to Marjorie and Ray—a son (Rodger John).

**STRACK** (nee Kemp).—Feb. 4, at Jessie McPherson hospital—to Doreen and Jim, the gift of a daughter (Julie Joan). A sister for Peter and Gregory.

## IN MEMORIAM

**DOWELL**.—In ever loving memory of my dear husband, Gordon, and dear daddy of Helen, who was called to higher service, Feb. 12, 1945.

Treasured memories.

—Inserted by his wife Muriel.

**KLEASE** (Nash).—Treasured memories of our dearly loved daughter, sister and aunty, Jean, called home Feb. 15, 1948.

"When for vanished days we yearn,

Days that never can return,

Teach us in thy love to learn—

Love for evermore.

—Inserted by her loving family.

**KLEASE** (Nash).—Treasured memories of my dear friend, Jean, now at rest in her Lord. —Inserted by her pal "Norga."

**LEE**.—In loving memory of my dear son and brother, W/O Mervyn, R.A.A.F., believed killed Feb. 12, 1945, near Gibraltar.

In a watery grave in a foreign land

Lies the son and brother we loved so dear;

A smiling face that didn't come home

When they sounded the last all clear.

—Inserted by his loving mother and brothers, Ray and Rod.

**LEE**.—In loving memory of our dear nephew, W/O Mervyn (R.A.A.F.), missing, presumed killed, over Gibraltar, Feb. 12, 1945.

Sweetest memories fond and true

Always remain, dear Merv., of you.

—Inserted by Auntie Beck, Sylvie, Uncle Tom and Eli.

**LONG**.—In loving memory of our dear mother, Elizabeth, who passed away Feb. 17, 1939; also our dear father, William, who passed away Oct. 23, 1942. (Late of Bendigo.)

Their memory dwells within the hearts of those who know their worth.

—Inserted by their loving family.

**PEDERSEN**.—In loving memory of our darling little Bruce, who departed to the better life on Feb. 24, 1939.

—Inserted by mother and father, A. M. and C. W. Pedersen.

**SHARPE**.—In loving memory of William A. Sharpe, of 18 Medway-st., Box Hill, who was called home on Feb. 17, 1940.

Resting in the everlasting arms.

—Inserted by his loving wife and children.

## COMING EVENTS

**FEBRUARY 21** (Tuesday).—North Suburban Conference will meet at Brunswick. Speaker, P. R. Thickens. Choral items by Northcote church choir.

**SWANSTON ST.** (opp. Public Library), **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19.**

11 a.m., second address in series on "Should We Support the World Council?"—"The Federal Council of Churches—the World Council in Miniature."

4.30 p.m., Study group—Dan. 11.

7 p.m., "The Interrupted Feast."

Preacher: K. A. Macnaughtan.

## PORTLAND THANKSGIVING SERVICE, FEBRUARY 19.

11 a.m. and 7 p.m., preacher, S. Neighbour. Song leader and soloist, Rex Pitts. Plan your holidays for this event. All welcome.

## CHELTENHAM BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

Feb. 19—3 p.m., F. A. Youens.  
7 p.m., J. C. Cunningham.  
Feb. 26—11 a.m., Teachers' Dedication Service.  
3 p.m., Prize distribution, also short talk by J. C. Cunningham.  
7 p.m., F. T. Morgan.  
All welcome.

## PUBLIC INAUGURAL SESSION, COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE, will be held in LYGON STREET CHAPEL

on Monday, February 20, at 8 p.m.

Speaker, J. E. Brooke, newly-appointed preacher at Lygon-st.

Special music by Bambra-rd. church choir, conductor, J. W. Machin.

Presentation of scholarships.

Come and welcome new and returning students.

## BACK TO NEWMARKET.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26,**

**Church Anniversary.**

11 a.m., Dr. W. A. Kemp.  
3 p.m., Principal E. L. Williams, M.A. Musical items.

7 p.m., R. McKenzie.

If you intend coming, please notify Mrs. A. Parker, 34 McCracken-st., Kensington (phone, FF1677), to assist with the catering.

## CHURCH OF CHRIST, CLIFF-ST., STH. YARRA. HOME-COMING SERVICES, FEBRUARY 26.

11 a.m., worship. Speaker, A. B. Withers, incoming conference president.

1 p.m., Fellowship lunch. Soloist, Miss Dorothy Clark.

3 p.m., Film service for all.

5 p.m., Fellowship tea.

7 p.m., Gospel meeting. Speaker, Alex. Wilson. Soloist, H. Whittaker.

Past members and friends come "home" for the day. A welcome awaits you.

Hospitality provided.

Please advise A. R. Davis, secretary, 9 Steele-ave., St. Kilda, S.2.

## SUPERINTENDENTS AND TEACHERS!

### VICTORIAN BIBLE SCHOOLS

### ANNUAL MEETING,

Tuesday, February 28.

Fellowship tea, 6.15 p.m.

Business:

Election of 1950 Committee.

Proposed Change in Lesson Material.

Review of Examination System.

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## 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.)

### "POPULAR MISTAKES"

IT is good to have Mr. Hagger's timely articles such as the above. With many others I am glad he is able to continue to write them.

There is, however, one portion of the article with which I do not agree. Amongst the hundreds of "good" people whom I know, there is not one who is likely to be singing: "All to Jesus I surrender." This is one of the saddest things about so many of our non-church-going friends; they do not see or feel that Jesus has any claim to their lives. They just go on "being good," quite apart from any spiritual basis whatever. The idea of personal surrender to Jesus is alien to them. A high moral code seems to be regarded as sufficient.

Many of your readers have probably felt like I have in so many cases of men and women of excellent character and high morality. What fine Christians they would make if they could only be persuaded of their need of Christ and his church. But unless, and until they do see that need, they are not likely to sing "I surrender all."—Thos. Smith, Glen Iris, Vic.

### A PLEA FOR UNITY (Psalm 133).

AS we approach Easter many earnest church workers will, at that time, be prayerfully considering how they can best promote the kingdom of God. The basis of this must be "the true sayings of God"—the truth as it is in Christ Jesus. We should maintain, love and revere the saints, who in all ages have endeavored to honor him and his kingdom. It will be well to go further and say, with Paul, even concerning conferences and "men of repute," "they added nothing to me" (Gal. 2: 6). We must remember the words of Jesus are the words of his Father, God; therefore those, as were committed to the apostles, go before any of those consecrated men that came after them.

In regard to our Lord's prophecy on the Mount of Olives on the kingdom of heaven, he taught his coming to judgment, in the abolition of the Jewish polity and the establishment of the Christian—the kingdom of Christ which commenced on the total ceasing of the ministration, or dispensation, as it pertained to Israel (Rom. 9: 4, 5). For as God's reign over the Jews entirely ended with the abolition of the temple service, so the reign of Christ, "in spirit and in truth," had then its true beginning. This was the true establishment of Christianity. Till the Jewish law was abolished, over which the "Father" presided as king, the reign of the "Son" could not take place, because the sovereignty of Christ over mankind was that very sovereignty of God over the Jews transferred and extended. This, therefore, being one of the most important eras in the economy of grace, and the most awful revolution in all God's religious dispensations, we see the elegance and propriety of the terms in question to denote so great an event together with the destruction of Jerusalem, by which it was effected. The change and fall of principalities and powers, whether spiritual or civil, are signified by (Matt. 24: 29) and the rise and establishment of new ones signified by Matt. 24: 31.—T. J. Johnston.

### WANTED

Furnished or part furnished flat for mother and daughter. Eastern suburb preferred.—Reply S.G.C., c/o Austral.



# Obituary

## John Richard Grenfell

A QUIET but faithful member of Hartwell A (Vic.) church passed to his eternal reward on Jan. 4. Mr. Grenfell was baptised at Ballarat in 1934 by J. Wiltshire. He came to Hartwell in 1937, and continued in regular attendance until his death. Of quiet and unassuming manner, he took no public part in services of church. The funeral services were largely attended and were conducted by A. G. Bennett. We commend members of bereaved family to loving care of our heavenly Father.—D.W.

## Mrs. Elizabeth Rose Harding

THERE passed away suddenly on Oct. 13 Mrs. Elizabeth Rose Harding, widow of the late William Charles Harding. She had been in ill-health for some time. Mrs. Harding joined the church at North Richmond over 50 years ago, and was active in the work there. In 1905 she went to New Zealand. While there both Mr. and Mrs. Harding were loyal to the work of the church. Returning to Melbourne in 1926, she attended the churches at Northcote and Glenferrie. In 1938 Mrs. Harding came to reside in Richmond, and became a member of the church in which she had accepted her Lord many years previously. She was loyal in her attendance and stewardship. Though often prevented from meeting because of ill-health, she would not willingly absent herself from the Lord's table. Mrs. Harding leaves a daughter (Mrs. Taylor) and a son (William), who sorrow not as those who have no hope.—J.G.S.

## Mrs. Lydia Ann Stewart

MRS. STEWART was baptised at Taradale, Vic., in the year 1901. After the death of her mother, she came with her father (J. J. Williamson), to live at Ascot Vale, where she remained an active worker until 1939, then she came to live at Burwood and brought her membership to Hartwell church. For nearly a year sickness kept her from services, and although her death came as a loss to the loved ones left behind, it came to her as a happy release for which she was well prepared. The funeral services were conducted by H. J. Patterson, Ken Patterson and D. Wakeley. We commend Mr. Stewart to the God of all comfort.—D.W.

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