

woolley.

The
**Australian
Christian**

National Weekly Representing Churches of Christ



God's Richest Blessings

Do throw all the sunset colors—
Silver and crimson and flame—
Over the sky each evening, yet
Never make them the same.

To slip back the gates of dawning,
To guide the sun as it goes,
To sweeten the crystal snowflakes,
And brighten the cheeks of a rose.

To bring out the stars with gladness
And make a path for the moon;
Give scent to the flower blossoms,
Wind-songs a wandering tune.

All of the things that man controls,
The visions that he makes true,
Never were half so wonderful as
The miracles God can do.

—Selected.

A Call For World-wide Evangelism

AMERICA

D. L. Moody Revival

FIFTY years ago, on Dec. 22, 1899, Dwight Lyman Moody died triumphantly, at his lovely home in Northfield, Massachusetts, with all his family around him. When death came he roused himself as if from a deep sleep, and said with wonderment and joy: "I see earth receding. Heaven is opening. God is calling."

Of the nine children—seven sons and two daughters—born to Edwin and Betsy Moody, of Northfield, Dwight Lyman was the sixth, and was born on Feb. 5, 1837. He was two years younger than Mark Twain, and two years older than John D. Rockefeller.

In the little township that hugged one of the tree-covered slopes of the Connecticut, amid wild and wonderful scenic loveliness, Dwight was reared. His father, a stonemason and a man of God, died suddenly when the future evangelist was four. The boy, an impish and independent little fellow, received scanty schooling. Mrs. Moody's brothers, in Boston, came to her rescue and helped her to pay the interest of the mortgage on her home; the eldest Moody boys relieved her of the worry of running the small farm; "she cared for the house and the children; and God"—the Helper of the fatherless—"took care of them all."

In 1854 Dwight said good-bye for the first time to the sights and sounds so fondly familiar to him, and started off to be a salesman in a Boston shoe store. The year following his de-



Dr. Martin Niemoller.

parture from Northfield he was convincingly converted, and his immediate consecration of himself to the will and the work of God was decisive and honest—in keeping with all his other conduct. He threw himself, heart and soul, into the service of his Saviour.

Some years later, when Moody was conducting one of his campaigns in Boston, a young fellow came to him at the close of a service and introduced himself as Mr. Kimball's son.

"Are you a Christian?" inquired Mr. Moody.

"No," said the young fellow.

"How old are you?"

"Seventeen."

"Just the very age I was," went on Mr. Moody, "when your father led me to the Saviour; and that was exactly seventeen years ago this very day. Now I want to repay him by leading his son to Christ."

In a pew of the church that very evening Moody led Mr. Kimball's son, who was far from home in both senses, to Christ. A letter from Mr. Kimball himself a few weeks later to Moody confirmed the truth of his son's conversion.—J. G. Patrick, in "Life of Faith."

U.S.A.

Los Angeles Stirred

D. R. ROBINSON, in "The Life of Faith," writes, "Reports have brought you some news of the great evangelistic campaign in Los Angeles led by Billy Graham. I say 'evangelistic campaign,' because although thousands of people have been converted, and the crowds averaged 6000 per night, one does not get the impression that it had the spontaneous upsurge of revivals we have read about. Dr. Edwin Orr spoke from the platform one night and remarked that while it was not yet a real revival, it could be the beginning of one.

"The campaign was arranged by the 'Christ for Greater Los Angeles' committee, a group of laymen and pastors interested in evangelising Southern California. These men gave Billy Graham utmost freedom in his work. Every Saturday night the local Youth for Christ Rally, of which I am acting director, participated. The Los Angeles Youth for Christ Rally has 3000 every Saturday night, so that their co-operation meant much to the campaign. No less should be said of the large churches in the city, which closed their doors on Sunday night to co-operate with the campaign.

"A number of celebrities professed faith in Christ during the campaign. One man, all ready to fly to New York to join some gangsters there, tore up his 'plane ticket and is to-day witnessing for Christ in rallies and churches. A television star was converted, and on his next programme was so enthusiastic about his conversion that the radio station cancelled his programme. He is thinking of going to a Bible college to study for full-time service.

"Another well-known radio star, Stuart Hamblen, professed faith in Jesus Christ. He is the son of a 71-year-old Southern Methodist minister. After he was converted in the hotel of Billy Graham at 4 o'clock in the morning, he telephoned long distance to his mother and father in Texas. His mother dropped the 'phone, gave a lusty Methodist shout and aroused her husband, who rejoiced with her over the good news. Hamblen's parents were flown to Los Angeles to express publicly their joy and gratitude. Mr. Hamblen gave the message of the evening to a crowd of 15,000 people, who thronged the tent to hear the words of a father whose son had found his father's God.

"One of the interesting features of the campaign was the large number of newcomers each night. Approximately one-fourth of the audience each night were people attending for the first time. This factor raised the number reached to over 300,000 people. There were approximately 6000 professions of faith, and many thousands of re-dedications to Christ."

JAPAN

Dr. Kagawa in London

WITH the New Year the Mildmay Mission that is "ringing London" will be augmented by Dr. Martin Niemoller, the German Lutheran leader, and Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa, who will spend six months in metropolitan evangelism.

The German ex-submarine commander is no stranger to London, although he is better known in connection with the World Christian Council than as a mission leader. Kagawa is new to London, and it is safe to predict that multitudes will seek to see and hear one of the most remarkable men of Japan, whose leadership in religion, social policy and eco-

nomics is helping to open a new future for his countrymen.

Kagawa is Japan's "Moody." He draws great audiences, as did the American evangelist, and he has the same "passion for souls." The reach of this man's mind is indicated by the slogan, "Japan for Christ," and this is a serious ambition. For some time he has left the organisation of



Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa.

labor to others while he concentrates on evangelism. Nearly 200,000 people have responded to his personal appeals. He has moved from city to city, addressing large gatherings, speaking with quiet fervor, but always working to a practical end.

Whatever Kagawa may say to Londoners, his gospel will most certainly be deeply stamped with an individual experience. About 60, he is a mystic and philosopher; he knows the Bible. He is to-day half-blind and cannot see his audiences.

How did he get this trachoma? In his early twenties Christian idealism led him to Tokyo's slums. Shinkawa had 10,000 people living in houses 6 ft. square. In one of these bunks Kagawa lived, often with three or four homeless lodgers. He is said to have feared "neither man, vermin, filth nor disease." He never refused a share of his bed with even the most filthy. A diseased beggar gave him the eye trouble. In these fearful slums Kagawa lived, at first persecuted and then admired for his courage and self-abnegation. Kagawa would preach in these streets with tears streaming down his cheeks.

From this baptism of poverty Kagawa emerged as a social reformer, and he went forth to organise laborers in search of a higher standard of life, and to help to deliver farmers from a thralldom of landlordism. Poverty he left behind when his first novel sold 250,000, and he sprang into fame. But for him money is an instrument of service.

Kagawa became a Christian in his late youth. He had accepted the hospitality of two missionaries, who introduced him to the Bible and to Christ. At first he went to "try out his English," but soon the book and the Personality got him. The words of Jesus about the lilies of the field fascinated his poetic spirit. He memorised the whole chapter. Then he knelt and prayed, "O God, make me like Christ." A change of heart came, and life was never again the same. He entered the Presbyterian college to be trained for the ministry. Tutors were astonished by his intellectual interest and range of reading.

In Japan Kagawa is a national figure. His book, "Psychology of the Poor," became a classic, and made such a stir that the government appropriated £2,000,000 for wiping out slums in six of the largest cities.

Mildmay welcomed Dr. Kagawa at headquarters on Jan. 7, and he addressed the public at the Westminster Central Hall two days later.—T.G., "The British Weekly."

Where Are Our Evangelists?

FIFTY years ago Dwight L. Moody died. His outstanding power to preach the gospel lifted him into an almost universal figure. He was of American citizenship, but gave Britain a stirring that could be equalled only by Wesley's work.

His sayings mark the originality of his thought and his belief in the power of God in man. "The world has yet to see what God will do with, and for, and through, and in, and by, the man who is fully and wholly consecrated to him." Upon this he commented, "He did not say a great man, nor a learned man, nor a rich man, nor a wise man, nor an eloquent man, nor a 'smart' man, but simply a 'man.' I will try my utmost to be that man." Moody believed God could work modern miracles through a self-surrendered man; and upon that belief he planned his life and mission. The results of his years of service are still with us.

When Mr. Moody preached in Britain huge halls were packed by eager hearers. "On his first Sunday in Glasgow Moody addressed 3000 Sunday school teachers at 9.30, while for the evening service the city hall was filled and three churches besides. The final meeting at the Botanical Gardens had an estimated congregation of at least 20,000. At Liverpool, while Moody spoke to an audience of 10,000 Hengler's Circus was occupied by an 'overflow.'"

Associated with Mr. Moody was Ira Sankey, the singing evangelist. Hymns were composed for the revival, set to tunes the people loved. Sankey set England singing. Butcher boys, plough men, kitchen maids all whistled or sang hymns while at work. To this day we hear people enjoying the hymns of Sankey. The memory of other days lingers in them, and people delight to recall those years of revival.

II.

FROM all accounts Japan has been blessed by the revival services of Dr. Toyohiko Kagawa. As a youth Kagawa gave up the opportunity of inheriting a vast fortune. He chose God rather than the riches of his family. He went to live in the slums of Shinkawa. He shared his bed with filthy beggars and food with the hungry. His slum surroundings affected his health; he was stricken with trachoma and is half blind.

This little, blind, unimpressive man of sixty is consumed by the desire to win Japan for Christ. When he speaks he exercises great power over his congregation. In his Christian ministry nearly 200,000 Japanese have responded to his personal appeal on behalf of Christ.

God has used a man who surrendered himself to a high ideal and turned from the temptations of a vast fortune. What great things God can do through men dedicated to his service? Moody and Kagawa prove such a truth.

Dr. Kagawa is now in London assisting in an evangelistic drive to convert the pagans of Britain. The East is helping the West. There is nothing surprising in the fact that a Japanese Christian is preaching to convert pagan Englishmen. God is no respecter of persons. There are no color lines with him. We believe he may yet raise up many great evangelists in the "younger" churches to go to the areas in the West that have lost their grip on Christ.

III.

BUT to-day we need evangelists in Australia. There are no signs of a new Moody or a Kagawa here; we certainly need more young men with the passion to win others. Where are the men who can take up the work of former evangelists such as H. G. Harward, G. Chandler, T. Hagger? The work of E. C. Hinrichsen over the years has been remarkable, but where are the men to follow up his missionary efforts?

Perhaps we are settling into the comfort of respectability, and want to be at

EDITORIAL



peace with the world. But Christ does not want us to be on friendly terms with the powers of darkness: he calls men to action. There can never be a time when we can give up the fight against the hosts of Satan. We must recapture the passion and zeal of preaching. We can so easily settle back and become satisfied. We need to be stung to action. Someone must shake us out of our complacency. Dare we sleep at this critical hour! One of the most serious trends in recent months within the churches has been the loss of preachers and the failure of younger men to come forward to make the sacrifices involved in church leadership. The opportunities in the commercial and professional world are a great temptation. Never can the church compete with what business offers. But did Moody, or Kagawa, or others who served Christ well, balance commercial gain against the riches of the kingdom, and turn from the work of the Lord? We do not want church officers to take advantage of a man's decision to serve Christ, making sure that they keep him poor. Some church officials might be of that mind, but the majority will do their best to support a preacher as he ought to be.

There is to-day a need for stress on evangelism. People can be reached by visitation evangelism and public preaching of the gospel are made foremost in the programme of the church. Let every method be used, so long as the gospel is preached. But, above all, churches need men who are prepared to undertake consecrated leadership. Men ought not wait for committees or conferences to organise efforts. By initiative and drive any preacher or church could plan forward moves for this year. Let each member's motto be: "Woe is me if I preach not the gospel!"



The Limits of Conference

ARE decisions of conference binding on local congregations of churches of Christ? We may say yes to that question only if it is understood that a local congregation must agree to accept the decision of conference as acceptable. Certain delegates at an annual conference may agree to recommend that a particular policy be followed, but their decision is not binding upon the brethren of a local church.

Early in the history of Victorian churches of Christ, this problem was raised. The question was so warmly debated, it was agreed that there be no further conference gatherings. When a year or so later a conference was called, it was upon the understanding that no decision of delegates be considered as binding, except in so far as a local congregation agreed to accept the decision as part of its programme.

After all, conferences are only the means used by local churches to carry out co-operative work which they cannot undertake as units. Never has a conference been so constituted as to lay down demands that must, in actual fact, be accepted against the wishes or decisions of a local church.

Since, however, there is a strong feeling of brotherhood and a common purpose to be fulfilled in publishing the good news by united efforts, churches of Christ are willing to help in the good work of the kingdom of God.

However, the doctrinal authority of churches of Christ is not to be found in conference, but in the Christ of the New Testament. Churches who acknowledge this Christ as Lord may find it very advantageous to link with their brethren in co-operative service at home and abroad.

If we appreciate the limits and the function of conference, we shall not be disturbed unduly by certain claims made. However, we should be careful not to allow some statements to go unchallenged, particularly if they claim more than they ought.

The Glory of the Hard Road

“DOES the road wind uphill all the way? Yes, to the very end.” This is supremely true of the life of Jesus. The gospel story reveals him as one who never took the easy path, who never turned aside from hard facts or difficult situations, but rather marched breast forward, eager to meet and master every obstacle. His courage is so constant and characteristic that, in reading the record we are apt to take it for granted. For instance, in the fourth chapter of John, there are two brief references, one at the beginning and the other almost at the close, where we see Jesus, at turning points of his life's journey acting against natural inclination, and deliberately and determinedly setting himself to tread the hard road. The first of these references is in the third and fourth verses.

I.

JESUS had come to the close of his first period of ministry in the south and now turned north to his own country. He left Judea and departed again into Galilee. *And he must needs go through Samaria.* Now what is the meaning of that note of compulsion? Why “*must needs go through Samaria?*” Not just that it was the most direct route, although it was that. But the Jews usually avoided going through Samaria. They made a detour, across the Jordan to the east, around through Perea, and then across into Galilee. It was not only their own contempt for the Samaritans that made them do this, but the equally bitter antagonism of the Samaritans for them. There was no hospitality, but only hostility, for a few passing through Samaria, and there might well be unpleasantness and even violence.

But Jesus “*must needs go through Samaria.*” The necessity was in his own soul. He felt the compulsion of the unpleasant and the difficult; the challenge of the hard road. So we see him, plodding along that unfriendly road, and at noon, when the hot Syrian sun blazes down, sitting on the side of Jacob's well outside the city of Sychar “*being wearied with his journey,*” and terribly thirsty. The disciples have gone away to try to get something to eat. There is no one in sight, except one woman, who comes to draw water, and she only comes in the heat of midday because she is a social outcast, denied the company of respectable women.

And when he asks her for a drink of water even she is grudging and ungracious: “*How is it,*” she asks, “*that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a Samaritan woman?*”

The hard road! The road through Samaria!—The stony path of duty which others are anxious to avoid. The unwelcoming and unpromising task. Where is your Samaria? Is it a school class where your Christianity is sneered at? Is it an office or a factory or a camp where the whole atmosphere and all your associations are against you? Do you sometimes feel that you would like to avoid it all?

But Jesus “*must needs go through Samaria.*” The very hardness and unpleasantness of it was to him a challenge and a compulsion. And because he deliberately chose to tread the hard road, through dust and heat, and discouragement and hostility, he found a compensating success. Very patiently he went on answering the woman's questions, exposing her excuses, and probing her pretensions, until at last he led her to repentance and saving faith; and at the end of two days, through the woman's testimony and his own word, many of the Samaritans believed on him and confessed him to be “*indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.*”

Yes, that is the glory of the hard road. The testing brings the triumph. Whenever, like the Master, we set ourselves to go through some Samaria, we find that Samaria yields its trophies. Whenever we respond to the compulsion of the unpleasant, we receive the compensations of worthwhile achievement.

By J. E. Brooke.

II.

NOW notice Jesus' next move. In the 43rd and 44th verses we read, “*After two days he departed thence, and went into Galilee, for Jesus himself testified that a prophet hath no honor in his own country.*” There you have it again—the characteristic courage of the Christ. “*A prophet hath no honor in his own country.*” Then isn't that a reason for keeping away from his own country? With some, maybe, but not with Jesus. With him it was just the opposite. Because he knew that he had no honor in Galilee, that was for Jesus the very reason why he should go there. Again, it was the challenge of the hard road; the compulsion of the unpleasant.

Galilee stands for the familiar places and the people whom we know, and who know us so well. Some of the hardest stretches of Jesus' road led through his home country and his native Nazareth. And his fellow townsmen were offended in him, and even his own family were for long out of sympathy with him. How many have found their own homes and neighborhood, and the circle of their close acquaintances, the most difficult places to live their Christian lives and bear their Christian witness!

But just because it was so hard and humiliating, Jesus deliberately went back to Galilee, and again he found a glory in the hard road. Again he was compensated for his response to the challenge. For John says, “*When he came into Galilee, the Galilean received him,*” and he received the reverent faith of a nobleman whose son he healed. And it is good to know that, at last, he won his own family to his side.

III.

WE see Jesus doing this all the way through—always journeying to his goal along the hardest road—always winning his victories after the fiercest fights, and at the end we see him travelling the hardest road of all—*steadfastly setting his face to go to Jerusalem.*

★ Thomas Hagger Writes Again in

Popular Mistakes

“I CAN BE JUST AS GOOD A CHRISTIAN AT HOME”

CAN you? “Yes! There is no need for church attendance.” Isn't there? If you take a burning coal out of the fireplace and place it on the hearth by itself, what happens? It soon becomes dead and cold. And so a Christian taken from the warmth of fellowship with other Christians is liable to become dead and cold spiritually. It has happened in very many cases.

Besides it means that the church which Jesus established to provide the opportunity for corporate worship, and for fellowship among believers, and to carry on his work in the world will be short of your assistance, and if all Christians acted that way there would be no church left on earth.

It would appear that faithfulness to the Lord and to his church is necessary on the part of all who claim to be Christians.

And don't forget that a Christian is a fol-

Jerusalem was the place of danger. He saw the cross looming before him at the end of the way. Then why not keep away? His disciples urged him not to go.

But he who had always taken the hard road now set out deliberately on the hardest road of all. Have you ever gone that way? Have you followed in his steps right up the slopes of Calvary? Have you denied yourself, and taken your own cross and gone after him?

Anyone who, like Christ, lays the crowning compulsion upon themselves will find, as he did, the completest compensation. For at the end of that hardest road he reached his highest reward. The cross became his throne, the crown of thorns his diadem of glory. And if we follow him all the way, so shall it be with us.

“The glory of the hard road.” Let us straighten our shoulders, stiffen our spirits, and step out in his strength. “This is the way the Master went; shall not the servant treat it still?”

“I said, ‘Let me walk in the fields.’ He said, ‘Nay, walk in the town.’

I said, ‘There are no flowers there.’ He said, ‘No flowers, but a crown.’

I said, ‘But the skies are black; there is nothing but noise and din.’

But he wept as he sent me back, ‘There is more,’ he said, ‘there is sin.’

I said, ‘But the air is thick, and fogs are veiling the sun.’

He answered, ‘Yet souls are sick, and souls in the dark undone.’

I said, ‘I shall miss the light, and my friends will miss me, they say.’

He said, ‘Choose to-night, if I am to miss you or they.’

I pleaded for time to be given. He said, ‘Is it hard to decide?’

It will not seem hard in heaven, to have followed the steps of your Guide.’

I cast one look at the fields, then set my face to the town;

He said, ‘My child, do you yield? Will you leave the flowers for the crown?’

Then into his hand went mine, and into my heart came he,

And I walk in a light divine, the path I had feared to see.”

lower of Christ, one who seeks to carry out his teaching, and follow his example. You agree. Well, did he not institute the Lord's Supper when his disciples were gathered together (Luke 22: 7-20)? This example, together with his, “This do” (verse 19) is sufficient for any real disciple of Christ.

You will remember that one of the New Testament writers wrote, “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is” (Heb. 10: 25). The purpose of assembling together would be to worship, and to have fellowship one with the other. Such fellowship, of which the New Testament says much, is very important. We need it so that each may be encouraged by the faith of the others. We need it as a preparation for the fellowship of heaven.

Let us not foolishly repeat the popular words, “I can be just as good a Christian at home”; but as often as the Lord's day comes round, be in the assembly of the saints to remember the Lord, to sing with others the uplifting hymns of praise, and to listen to the word of exhortation and teaching.

Building for God

PLANNING for the opening of the training school is under way. Soon we hope to report the actual opening.

"We are glad that our house is now ready to live in. It has been a big job but well worth while, and we are very pleased with it. We will go there to live when we return from Santo, and will look forward to pushing on with the rest of the school buildings and the final establishment of the school.

"The longer we stay here and realise the needs of the people, the more anxious we become to train young men 'apt to teach.' Whilst the mission has more buildings and better equipment than ever before, we must remember that fine buildings are not our aim, but are simply a means. The principal of the Tangoa Teachers' Institute remarked to me that people are apt to judge a mission on its buildings rather than the teaching that is being given. How true these words are in this day of materialism. Yet we must never forget that the word of God alone endureth for ever; and regarding these other things they shall all pass away. It is not the things that Jesus made in the carpenter's shop



Sister Daisy Henderson.

This double certificated nursing sister has already had preaching and nursing and teaching in Australia and in the Islands, and is booked to sail for the New Hebrides in March. Her help will be valuable immediately in the school work, as Mr. McLean will now have to concentrate on the opening of the new training school.

at Nazareth that have endured, but his sayings. Unless we plant the word of God in the hearts of the people out here, our work is in vain. The great hindrance to giving our New Hebridean brethren a thorough knowledge of the word is the language barrier. Different dialects are spoken on the three islands where we have centred our work—Aoba, Pentecost and Maewo. None of these people has the scriptures in his own tongue. Fortunately, however, many young men have quite a good grasp of English, and upon these is placed the tremendous task of explaining the word to others. These are the young men that we want in the training college; young men with a knowledge of English, the ability to teach, and above all, a burning desire to extend the kingdom, promoted by a great love for their Lord."—R. S. McLean.

FIGHTING AN EPIDEMIC

SINCE October 1, the island of Aoba has been under strict quarantine, and letters written early in February state that consideration was being given to lifting the ban save in one section of the islands.

The restrictions delayed inward mails, and almost put a stop to outward mails. It also prevented our workers on Pentecost having direct contact with those on Aoba. This has been a distinct disadvantage because no full council meetings could be held.

We have had no report stating that our part of the island has actually contracted the disease, but strict precautions were taken.

Immunised

Mrs. Finger writes: "Fortunately we are still free from whooping cough this side of the island. The small children in this area have been immunised, Miss Kennedy doing the nearby village children at the hospital, and my husband and I the outlying places. We were sorry to have to ask Harold to leave his work, for there is much to be done just now, but we felt it imperative to use the serum as fast as we could get it, in an effort to protect the children, who, of course, have no resistance to the disease, and who fare badly when they do contract it. The account for the serum ordered from Sydney will be settled by the folk here. We will forward the £103 on as soon as possible."

It was anticipated that at least five hundred children would be immunised, necessitating four injections each. Apart from the expense, the demand on time has been heavy.

"Shut Out"

It was recommended that Mrs. McLean journey to Santo for the birth of her baby. Accordingly, Mr. and Mrs. McLean made the journey, but on arrival at the neighboring island were promptly placed in quarantine at the French hospital. Shortly after their release from quarantine, Ian Sinclair McLean was born. We congratulate the parents on the birth of a son, and are glad that mother and child were doing well.

Unfortunately, the restrictions prevented boats from putting into Aoba, and latest advice stated that these workers were still on Santo. These long delays and living in the Santo hotel have caused extraordinary and particularly heavy expenses. Whilst board regret the expense, we give thanks to God for the preservation of our missionaries and native peoples during the epidemic!



IMPORTANT NOTICE ADDRESS FOR MISSIONARIES

PLEASE note that correspondence for our five new missionaries up to May 31, 1950, should be addressed c/o Miss E. Vawser, Baramati, Poona District, India. After that date they will be c/o Ripon Hotel, Mahabeshwar, Satara District, India. Mail for Mr. H. Waghmode, B.A., should be sent to Baramati, Poona District, India.

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

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

February 21, 1950

Page 77

THE MOST PRECIOUS THING ON EARTH

THE most precious thing on earth is the world's own book—the word of God. When a deputation waited on the late King George V. on the occasion of the tercentenary of the authorised version of the Bible, His Majesty said:

"It is my confident hope, confirmed by the widespread interest your movement has aroused, that my subjects may never cease to cherish their noble inheritance in the English Bible, which in a secular aspect, is the first of all national treasures, and in its spiritual significance the most valuable thing this world affords."



Martin Luther.

On May 12, 1937, in the coronation ceremony of our present King and Queen, the Archbishop of Canterbury said: "Our gracious King, we present you with this book, the most valuable thing this world affords. Here is wisdom; this is the royal law; these are the lively oracles of God."

John Milton, speaking for England, said: "There are no songs to be compared with the songs of Zion." Martin Luther said, "Would to God this book were in every language, and every home—where the soul has the word of God it needs nothing more." George Washington, the all-time spokesman for America, declared, "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible." Sir Walter Scott said, "There is but one book—the Bible." When in the war the great strain of conflict was on our boys, a chaplain tells how many were seen reading their Testaments on the beaches at Dunkirk. "I laughed," said a soldier, "when they gave me a Bible as I was leaving for France. I had never been to church, and did not think of such things at home. Yes, I read that Bible, and don't know what I would have done without it over there, and when we came home from Dunkirk, and I had to leave everything behind, I clung to my Bible."

Men will hazard everything to possess it. It is like the pearl of great price, and represents the imperishable truth for every man. In this urge for the possession of the word of God, we see all the strivings of Paul, all the sighs of Augustine, all the longings of A'Kempis, all the dreams of John Bunyan, all the yearnings of Francis, the unyielding faith of Martin Niemöller, and the patient search of Helen Keller.

Men will suffer anything to pass it on. Remember John, an exile in Patmos for the word of God. See the venerable Bede spending his failing strength in completing the translation of the gospel into the Anglo-Saxon, so that his people could read it for themselves. In these later days, the greatest united missionary enterprise the world has ever seen for providing the world with the word of God has been the pooling of all resources of the great Bible societies, to meet the world's need, to sell to every man at a price he can afford. In this all-important task we must not fail.—S. R. Baker.

Children's Home, Pendle Hill

NEW SOUTH WALES

A YEAR OF BLESSING AT DUNMORE

A BOY from Dunmore Boys' Home says "Thank you" at the close of 1949.

(Extract from "The Christian Messenger, December, 1949.)

"On behalf of all the boys at Dunmore, I want to thank all the good people who have helped us so much during the past year.



Mr. and Mrs. Knowles.

"Besides what you gave at the annual offering and the garden fete, quite a lot of people and schools helped us individually, and a lot of people came to the home to visit us. Then lots of churches asked us to visit their church and Sunday school, and we went to a lot of picnics and we all had a good time.

"Mr. and Mrs. Knowles, too, have been very good to us all, and made us feel that we are really at home. So, on behalf of all the boys I want to thank you and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."



A CHANGE IN ADMINISTRATION

NEARLY fifteen years ago the Churches of Christ Homes Co-operative Society Limited, a non-profit company, was formed for the purpose of providing "for the maintenance and assistance of orphans, neglected children, children under



"Dunmore House."

unfit guardianship, and children whose parents for various reasons are unable to give them proper care and attention." The society which was composed of certain members of churches of Christ in N.S.W. acquired the Dunmore House property of 20 acres at Pendle Hill, near Parramatta, and has conducted a boys' home there ever since; the main advantage of that organisation was its power to hold property as a corporate body—a power not possessed by any brotherhood committee. The enactment of the Churches of Christ in New South Wales In-

corporation Act in 1947, under which the Churches of Christ Property Trust has been constituted, has rendered unnecessary the continuance of the co-operative society. The annual conference last year endorsed a recommendation of the directors of the society that the property be transferred to the Property Trust in trust for a Children's Homes Committee to be elected by conference, and that the society be wound-up. The property was vested in the Property Trust some months ago; on Dec. 20 last the shareholders carried a special resolution unanimously placing the society in liquidation and directing the liquidator, Mr. Geo. Morton, to hand over the remaining assets to the Churches of Christ Children's Homes Committee. The whole of this procedure has practically been completed. This means that the brotherhood in New South Wales has been presented with a valuable property, conservatively valued at £7000 to-day, with which to carry on this work in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let every member of the churches ap-



Colin Babbage and Arthur Schliebs in Playful Mood.

propriate a closer personal interest and responsibility in the expansion and maintenance of this Christian home at Dunmore.



A PROPHECIC MOTTO

THE splendidly built Dunmore House, on its commanding eminence, is reckoned to be at least 100 years old. On the ground glass panel of the main entrance door is the motto, presumably of the original owner, "Miseris succerrere disco" (I learn to help the unfortunate). In the providence of God, for the last fifteen years, many under-privileged lads from many broken homes have been sheltered and nurtured in a Christian home by our churches, in the name of our Saviour who said, "It is not the will of your Father, which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish." Just take a look at the samples of happy childhood at Dunmore on this page; also as you examine the picture of Mr. and Mrs.

Knowles (superintendent and matron) we ask you to begin to pray for them and their charges who have been responding to their Christian training. The opportunity for material support is afforded to everyone in the annual offering to be received in the churches on Lord's day, March 5, 1950. Gifts will be thankfully received by Geo. Morton, secretary, 17 Maxim-st., West Ryde, N.S.W.—J. L. Stimson, chairman.



Neville Smith in His Cabbage Patch.

Hidden Hands of Help

HOW little is known of the private history of great statesmen, orators and writers. How few of them have revealed the secret influences, the little helping hands, that shaped and uplifted the lives of their genius. If the truth could be known, doubtless it would be found that every one of them, as he struggled upward, fixed his eyes upon some one human face, and knew by its smile when he had won a success. How many have reached heights they never would have attained had it not been for little white hands, which the world never saw, that were extended to them when the beetling cliff of difficulty seemed to bar their upward way. The subtle lines of sympathy are more invisible than the threads which sunbeams spin through mid-air. Those between sympathetic hearts, finer than the finest tissues of light, have fed great aspirations to glorious strength and issue. We know what they did for many of the old masters; Dante had his Beatrice, and Petrarch his Laura, and Thomson his Countess of Hertford as a better and purer inspiration to his genius. These were not hidden hands, for each poet revealed the one that helped him; but what they were to these great writers, other hands the world never saw have been to men of every rank or distinction.—Elihu Burritt.



A Slide Load of Bonny Boys.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

February 21, 1950

Page 78

COMMONWEALTH ROUND-UP

HERE AND THERE

DUSSELL WILLIAMS, of Coburg, Vic., has qualified for the degree of Bachelor of Arts.

The United Bible Societies are publishing a quarterly journal for those engaged in Bible translation. The January issue promises much help to translators.

A new series of addresses are being broadcast over station 4RQ, Brisbane. This programme includes statements on the plea of churches of Christ and sacred music.

Owing to sickness Sister Florence Kennedy, missionary on Aoba, New Hebrides, returned to Melbourne by plane, Feb. 13, and is now an inmate of Epworth hospital, Richmond, Vic.

The work under direction of E. Randall in the new housing area at Maidstone, Vic., is proving encouraging. There were three adult decisions for Christ on Sunday, Feb. 12.

Miss Elsie Caldicott is temporarily engaged supervising a remand home, "Mahila Seva Gram." Inmates number 270. American churches of Christ have offered her a position for two years.

We regret that D. E. Pittman, manager of The Austral Printing and Publishing Co., has not been able, for several weeks, to attend to his many duties associated with the company and the Hampton church.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of church extension work in Victoria. The Properties Corporation is appealing for a record offering on March 19 to enable the financing of a big programme that lies ahead.

Lake-st. church, the oldest of our churches in Western Australia, will celebrate its 60th anniversary this year. The main celebrations will be in September, but a number of features throughout the year will emphasise the occasion. The church plans to place special emphasis upon spiritual growth and evangelism.

The Melbourne Eastern Suburban Youth Fellowship held first meeting of year on Feb. 11. The evening took form of a "fiesta" with Tommy Parer as star; 99 attended. All young people in eastern suburbs are invited to next meeting, Sunday, Mar. 19, at Hartwell (Vic.) chapel. This will be a P.S.A. with Mr. Gomm as speaker.

H. G. Payne, of Queensland, writes, "May I enrol myself among the 'old-timers' who have read 'The Christian' for 50 years or more? I was agent at Collingwood, Vic., for the 'Standard' and the 'Pioneer' when they merged to form 'The Christian'; then agent for new paper, which I have read from its beginning." We are glad to have this word from one of faithful church workers.

In the past, because of special difficulties, we have not accepted advertisements of engagement notices. We have found that many have been denied an opportunity to make known news they are happy to announce. We have now agreed to change our policy and to insert such notices provided the notice is endorsed with the signature of one of the parents.

"Handling Aright Our Possessions" is the title of a stewardship tract recently added to Austral supplies. A pictorial front page gives meaning to the title and indicates that life is something not to be hoarded, but spent. The tract has been prepared from subject matter presented by W. F. Nankivell, B.A., B.D., to Victorian preachers, who recommended that it be made available in tract form. Individuals and congregations need constant teaching in stewardship matters. This tract supplies a guiding statement. It is for thoughtful readers, and its distribution would prove an apt supplement to platform utterances. The tracts are available from The Austral Publishing Co. at 4d. per doz., or 2/6, 100, plus postage.

West Preston, Vic.

21st ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

TWENTY-FIRST anniversary of church was celebrated from Feb. 5 to 12, and proved to be one of the most helpful experiences enjoyed by members. On Feb. 5, Mr. Withers presided at communion service. G. Grainger was speaker. H. B. Robbins led in prayer and Mrs. Gullidge contributed a solo. At 5 p.m. Y.P. met with church officers for tea, and afterwards listened with interest to an address by Mr. Grainger. Building was filled to capacity at night, when Mr. Withers preached. F. Morgan spoke at inspirational gathering on Feb. 8. Mr. Withers presided over meeting on Feb. 11, when former preachers, H. B. Robbins, C. G. V. Thomas, C. W. Hart and W. Wigney were present. On Feb. 12, at 11 a.m., J. D. Lang (foundation elder) presided and W. Gale, who spoke at first meeting of church, gave address. Gospel service was an impressive conclusion of an historic experience, when two were baptised by Mr. Withers.



Bible School Increases

AT MARYBOROUGH, QLD.

OWING to increase of 100 per cent in attendance at Sunday school during past twelve months, school has been reorganised. Mrs. Roberts, wife of preacher, is now kindergarten superintendent, with Betty Anderson, Hazel Branch and Estelle Jones as assistants. Mrs. J. Oakley, former kindergarten superintendent, Mrs. E. Wiltshire and Mr. A. Popp, have been added to Bible school teaching staff. Two new classes have been created. Church was privileged to be addressed on recent Sunday morning by Brigadier Collishaw, a Salvation Army returned missionary from Shanghai. Monthly fellowship tea was well attended on Feb. 5, when Mr. Argall, from Commonwealth Bank, was guest speaker on subject, "What Christ means to me." Mr. Roberts has been selected by Ministers' Fraternal to be secretary of that body. Preacher and his wife are on holidays.



Camp Re-union

WEST MORETON, QLD.

WEST Moreton camp reunion was held at Rosewood on Feb. 4. Campers were in high spirits and contributed to what proved to be a very successful evening. Eila and June Pieper sang, and Estelle Schreiweis rendered a violin solo. Dawn Christensen, Maurice Pieper and Doug. Logan gave "camp echoes." Garnett Jensen, on behalf of the campers, presented preacher with a beautiful leather bound writing set. Mrs. Harry Pieper also made a presentation of appreciation on behalf of camp staff. Glen Iris student, Jack Macormick, challenged large gathering with a stirring address. The address was followed by a baptismal service, and evening concluded with a general get-together. There have been two further decisions for Christ. The West Moreton executive have planned the annual conference for March 11, with combined meetings in afternoon and evening. Conference sermon, by Mal Leask, will be recorded and broadcast over 4IP on following Sunday at 9 p.m. Mr. Rogers was guest speaker on Feb. 5, and services were appreciated.

Homes for Aged, W.A.

THE Perth Central Methodist mission has established a home for women who, in the later years of life, are unable to find living accommodation. The late Miss Sarah Hardey gave to the mission her large home at North Perth for the purpose. It will accommodate 12 women, who will be cared for by a matron and two assistants. It will not be a hospital or convalescent home, owing to Health Department regulations. Women who cannot pay full board will be assisted by the mission. Each room is treated in a different color scheme; the dining room has a number of small tables instead of one large one; there is a commodious lounge room; a kitchenette has been built so that women may entertain their friends, and there is a large sun porch. The house stands in spacious grounds, with ample space for flower and vegetable gardens.

The State Government is bringing to completion its new and modern "Eventide" home for aged women on the banks of Canning River. The planned appointments of the institution promise to provide a considerable degree of comfort and care for its inmates.

Meanwhile the scheme proposed by our own Social Service Department for the building of duplex cottages for aged couples on land secured at Victoria Park, is in abeyance because of shortage of materials, and also because of uncertainty that the scheme is the wisest one to pursue at the moment.

Youth Director

Our youth department now employs a full-time director. Stan Davey had been working on a part-time salary, but had given nearly full-time service. Last October he was engaged in a full-time capacity, but resigned as from Dec. 31 to enter secular employment and university study. Ron Hillier retired from the ministry of the Victoria Park church to take up the youth directorship.

New Ministries

T. D. Maiden, after over twelve months' retirement owing to illness, has again entered the full-time ministry and is serving at Harvey. G. Lord arrived in January from Queensland to minister with the Northam church, and H. Fitch has returned to his home State from New Zealand to serve in the Mukinbudin or northern end of the Eastern Wheatbelt circuit. F. Griffiths is located at the Narembeen or southern end. The circuit is entirely self-supporting. It was formerly under the sole care of Mr. Maiden.

Nation Builders

Annual summer school, conducted by the Adult Education Board, included a special church service in the chapel of St. George's College. The theme of service was "The Nation Builders" and theme text, "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it." Preacher was the Warden of the College, J. H. Reynolds. In the course of his address, he said that observant world leaders were trying to convince Australians that we are a Pacific country, an Indian Ocean country, and an Asian country. This might well be the case, said Mr. Reynolds, and it might be that we are destined to be one of the bridges by which East and West will meet. We in Western Australia could be justly proud of our achievements, our friendliness, our hospitality, and the survival of the helping hand spirit of the pioneers. But we must also plead guilty to a long list of charges against us: lack of interest in the welfare of our aborigines; the neglect of our flora and fauna; unforgivable delay in the planning of our cities; our neglect of the provision of a fuller physical life for the under-privileged.—J. K. Robinson.

News



Churches

Western Australia

Fremantle.—Church has adopted slogan, "On to Easter with the Master," and is pursuing this theme in all aspects of work. Monthly "living link" prayer meeting held first intercessory prayers on behalf of our missionaries on Jan. 24. Same evening junior and intermediate C.E. societies resumed, after a recess of five weeks. Weekly prayer meeting has been revived, and is conducted each Thursday evening at 8. Sunday school held annual picnic at Point Walter on Jan. 30. Chapel was filled on evening of Feb. 7, when a combined rally of Cottesloe, Palmyra and Fremantle churches welcomed Hariba Waghmode.

Queensland

Ma Ma Creek.—For some months work has been maintained without a full-time preacher. Church is indebted to L. Larsen, E. Reeves and Toowoomba brethren E. T. Hart, F. Winter, H. Lowe, R. Draney, A. Gould, C. Dunn, Mr. Pitman, Mr. Hammond and the crusade team, H. and L. Christensen and F. Winter, jun., for help. W. J. Davidson commenced ministry on Jan. 22. He and Mrs. Davidson were welcomed on Feb. 1 at function presided over by E. T. Hart. Visitors were present from Toowoomba, Ipswich and Bundaberg. Various speakers were: A. Bernoth (president), E. F. Cole (for the board of officers), E. Rosenberg (school superintendent), N. Cole (C.E. president), Mrs. E. F. Cole (Ladies' Mission Band) and F. Winter (Toowoomba church). Mr. and Mrs. Davidson responded. Manse renovations are being undertaken. Davidson family will be happily settled shortly. C.E. society held first meeting of year on Feb. 8. Successful Christmas tree functions were held at Ma Ma Creek, Mt. Whitstone and Fordsdale. A. B. Clark, of Taree, conducted the Christmas service, and on Dec. 31 assisted W. J. Davidson in marriage ceremony of Maureen Cole and James Steele. Presentations were made from C.E. and Mt. Whitstone Sunday school, where Maureen was a teacher. Mr. Davidson is doing extensive visitation on motor cycle. The transfer of chapel and manse properties to Corporation Board has been completed.

South Australia

Queenstown.—Mr. Cain has given a series of addresses. Increases of attendance are reported in all youth departments, and Wattle Club, Girls' and Boys' Brigades have commenced their new year of service. On Feb. 12, J.C.E. Society held a special service for presentation of attendance certificates and attendance of scholars and parents was 72. Church was grieved by death of Mrs. Fry, called to higher service recently. Mrs. Fry was a great worker in church until ill-health prevented her from attending.

Fullarton.—Bible school picnic was held at Kirkaldy Beach on Feb. 11. Children were transported by buses. In delightful weather conditions a happy time was spent in fellowship, games, and races for boys and girls. On Feb. 12 there was a good meeting at morning worship, B. W. Manning's exposition from the morning lesson being appreciated. In evening a baptismal service was held prior to gospel meeting, when Jim and Graham Suttle, Bible school scholars, were baptised. B. W. Manning preached a powerful message on baptism; there were many visitors present among whom was Mrs. Storey, Hampton, Vic.

Nailsworth.—All grades of C.E. societies are active again. A youth study group met for Bible study on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 12, under leadership of A. J. Fisher. Keen interest was displayed; group had tea in hall and continued fellowship until gospel service. On Feb. 13, a special meeting of youth of church, convened by church officers, elected a youth council for sponsoring youth activity in church and community. On Feb. 16 a pre-wedding social was tendered to Sister I. Dale and L. Gardiner, taking form of a "grocery" night.

Prospect.—On Feb. 8 social evening was held to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Patching into work of church. A representative gathering was present, and an enjoyable time was spent together. No choir practice was held on Thursday night, in order that members might attend brotherhood farewell to missionaries en route to India held at Grote-st. The A grade tennis team have succeeded in reaching finals of Churches of Christ Association, obtaining second position in minor round. On Feb. 12 Mr. Patching preached at both services.

Kilburn.—At special business meeting on Feb. 8, church accepted constitution as recommended by management committee. C. Schwab, who presided, was thanked for his consistent help in building up and organising of young cause. Messrs. Tompsett and Winckel, of Maylands church, conducted 11.15 a.m. service on Feb. 12; the former presided, and latter told story to 40 young worshippers and helpfully addressed 39 adults. Fellowship was enjoyed with D. Pike, of Western Australia, and visitors from Lenswood and other churches. Attendance at 10 a.m. Bible school was 112, including 66 in kindergarten dept. Beth Riches is on holiday and is missed by her big class. F. Collins conducted 7 p.m. gospel service, 20 being present.

Dulwich.—During month of January church enjoyed fellowship with visitors, including Hariba Waghmode, who gave an excellent gospel address, and W. Green, of Mile End, who conducted the service. A. McGlasson, president-elect of conference, addressed church on morning of 29th, and on Feb. 5 A. Anderson gave an interesting sermon. The preacher, Mr. Cave, who is conference president, is away often, and church appreciates help of these brethren. All clubs and youth departments are again in action after holiday period. Although some members have not returned, meetings are returning to normal. Several visitors who have taken residence in district are meeting with church. Officers are anxious to increase manse fund which stands at £243; enquiries are being made to secure house.

Stirling East.—On Jan. 18 annual business meeting of church was conducted, and also a farewell social to Rudd family who have left district. Anniversary services of church were held on Jan. 29 with good attendances at both services. Conference president, H. Cave, addressed morning service, and J. E. Shipway spoke in evening. At close of morning service of Jan. 29, words of farewell were said to Mr. and Mrs. J. Hemer and family, who have taken up residence at Blackwood. Church attendances are keeping up, and Mr. Stewart's addresses are much appreciated. Sunday school attendances have been affected by removal of several families from district, but are keeping up in spite of this. Young People's Fel-

lowship resumed meetings again on Feb. 1, and a variation in meetings has been arranged to keep the young people more interested.

Kadina.—Visitors to other States have returned. After a period of recess Bible school and J.C.E. have resumed. A picnic, arranged by superintendent, K. Russack, for J.C.E., was much enjoyed. Members cars conveyed young people to North Beach, Wallaroo. Very fair average attendance and interest are maintained in services. Church regrets removal into isolation at Ardrossan of H. Russack and family. His presence and service, and that of his wife, are greatly missed. In absence of Theo. Edwards by sickness, Mr. Bunny (Methodist) and S. Trenwith conducted services. Officers have decided to issue a monthly paper. Mr. Burnell has been ill. Mesdames Rose and Rowley are in hospital.

Cowandilla.—T. T. Robinson continues to give helpful addresses. His visitation shows results in increased attendances. Average attendances for last four weeks: 71 morning, 60 evening, 79 communicants. Teachers' training classes have been conducted by Gordon Stirling. Young married women's club commenced year with an enjoyable social, to which husbands were invited. All auxiliaries have resumed after Christmas vacation. A large group from church attended farewell at Grote-st. to five young Christian workers on way to Indian mission field. A kitchen evening on Feb. 1 was arranged for Miss Joan Miller and W. Docking. Many useful presents were presented to couple. Young People's Fellowship have decided to commence on Mar. 2 a special week-night meeting. N. G. McLean and Miss Joyce Dixon have been appointed as co-leaders for Junior Endeavor. On Feb. 11 Miss Joan Miller and W. Docking were married, G. Stirling officiating. Two young ladies on Feb. 12 were received into fellowship, one by faith and baptism, the other by transfer.

York.—Church was pleased to welcome back preacher, L. G. Johnson, from his annual holidays, on Feb. 12. Visiting speakers during Mr. Johnson's absence were greatly appreciated, amongst them being W. Greenwood, who enters Glen Iris college shortly. At gospel service, on Jan. 29, H. Davie spoke, and after service he assisted Mr. Bell in showing of strip films on mission work amongst aborigines. Mr. Johnson, on Feb. 12, commenced his fifth year of ministry with church. Morning service attendances have been average, but gospel services have been better, majority attending being young people. Choir, though small, still continues to give valuable assistance. A Y.P.C.E. society has been formed, under supervision of E. G. Harding, average attendance being 10. At monthly youth fellowship tea, 40 people enjoyed happy time. The speaker, W. Morrow, before giving an interesting tea-table talk, presented Miss A. Swain with a certificate of long service from youth department, for her 25 years' service in Bible school. Mr. Morrow addressed 62 at gospel service. Bible school business meeting was held on Feb. 15. D. J. Bennett was re-elected superintendent and Mr. Ross Harding, secretary. Attendance at Bible school is almost back to normal.

New South Wales

Georgetown.—There was an average attendance of 75 at daily vacation Bible school in January. Mrs. W. Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. MacKenzie and eight others comprised the staff. School ran for three hours each morning for a week; theme was "God's family and how to live in it." Church is feeling loss of one of the deacons, John Elliott, who died suddenly in Newcastle baths on Jan. 31. Funeral left chapel on Feb. 2 for Sandgate Cemetery, after a service conducted by C. J. MacKenzie. Remembrance tributes were paid to him at gospel service on Feb. 5 by Mr. MacKenzie and Mr. Fraser. N. Thompson and E. Hill were married in chapel on Jan. 28, J. Moran officiating. Couple were tendered a kitchen tea on 20th. Mrs. Wade and Kevin Foote have been baptised, and

received into fellowship. Four girls are preparing for baptism. Almost fifty from Georgetown attended district launch picnic to Raymond Terrace on A.N.A. day.

Inverell.—Sunday school re-commenced after holidays, with several new scholars and one new teacher. Annual S.S. picnic was held on Jan. 30 at Acacias, with a good attendance of parents and friends. On Jan. 22, Mr. Norling baptised Douglas Hamilton, Douglas having previously made his confession of faith at Delungra. Church offering for aboriginal fund is over £10. Recent visitors included Alfred Winter, from Queensland.

Taree.—Annual Bible school picnic was held successfully at Black Head, a seaside resort, on Feb. 11. The same evening youth workers met Roy Greenhalgh and S. Laney, who are touring country churches in interests of Bible school committee; a profitable evening was spent. On Feb. 12 Mr. Greenhalgh visited Wingham church and Sunday school in morning, and in afternoon conducted "a happy hour" at Taree; the Methodist Sunday school co-operated with special afternoon session. At night S. Laney, who led morning service at Taree, conducted gospel service at Wingham at night, whilst Mr. Greenhalgh presented a religious film at Taree, giving a brief message in conclusion.

Victoria

East Malvern.—There was one confession on Feb. 12, Mr. Stewart preaching. Offering for aborigines mission amounted to £13/14/7, including 13/1 from the Bible school.

Wonga Park.—Attendance at meeting is being well maintained. Annual meeting was held on Feb. 9. Office-bearers elected were: Mr. Dawe, secretary; Mr. Kear, treasurer; Mrs. S. Knee, organist. Special collections during year amounted to £78. C.E. has resumed meetings after Christmas vacation.

Frankston-Moorooduc.—Fellowship has been enjoyed with many visitors. Church regrets removal to Queensland of Elsie and Bert Mayall. Three boys from Menzies' Home confessed Christ at recent meeting. An enjoyable Bible school picnic was held at Somerville on A.N.A. day. Women's Mission Band resumed on Feb. 2. Mr. Morgan has preached at all services at Frankston and Moorooduc.

Ballarat (York-st.).—Lilian Roberts has been welcomed following baptism. Mr. and Mrs. Long are spending their holidays at Newcastle. Bible school picnic was held at Botanical Gardens on Feb. 11. 168 attended Bible school on Feb. 5—an all-time record. Increasing attendance is taxing school staff and equipment. Practice for anniversary has commenced. Meetings for worship and gospel service are being well attended. A. Graham exhorted church helpfully on Feb. 12. Auxiliaries have re-commenced.

French Island.—A Bible was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Broderick, who have left French Island. Nov. 20 was Mr. Pritchard's farewell service; he was speaker. On Dec. 4 a party of young people visited from Chelsea for school and church service. Their help was much appreciated. Mr. Williams was speaker. L. Brown, of Red Hill, brought a party of six young people on Dec. 18. Visitors from Parkdale conducted school and service, Feb. 5. P. French paid his first visit to French Island on Feb. 12.

Maryborough.—On Jan. 22, Mr. Living gave rousing address on churches' responsibility to youth. H. Long, of Ballarat, was speaker on 29th; his addresses were appreciated. On Jan. 30 a number travelled to St. Arnaud for midland district conference. Girls' choir supplied music for meetings. Church is looking forward to return of Mr. Stitt. Seven local young people have planned to go to training camp at Hall's Gap. Ladies' Aid re-commenced on Feb. 2. Mrs. Pascoe and Mrs. Matthews were re-elected president and secretary respectively.

East Kew.—On Sunday, Feb. 12 the nurses' choir gave messages in song at 7 p.m. service, and Mr. Wigney preached to a large congregation. Both services were well attended on 19th, and at conclusion of Mr. Wigney's gospel address two young women made the good confession.

Wattle Park.—Church still maintains interest, land for chapel building having been secured. Speakers during month have been H. Edwards, F. N. Lee and W. Atkin. Appreciation has been extended to all who have helped as speakers. Sunday school and kindergarten, with an enrolment of 50, shows virile progress. Ladies' Fellowship, with £90 in hand from the past year's activities, look forward to a happy future.

Shepparton.—On Jan. 29 Mr. Atkinson, of aboriginal church, gave helpful message at communion service. In evening about 30 members from aboriginal church attended, their choir rendering several items. An after church fellowship was enjoyed by all. On Feb. 5 John Richards confessed his faith in Christ and was baptised on Feb. 12. Mr. Lewis continues to give good leadership, and work amongst young people is encouraging. Y.P.S.C.E. has re-commenced after holidays, and is planning a forward move for 1950.

Bentleigh.—All auxiliaries have re-commenced since holidays. A. W. Stephenson was speaker at gospel service on Jan. 29. Mr. Beddome spoke in morning. Many visitors have been present at services lately. Church picnic was held at Seaford, A.N.A. day, and S.S. picnic at Wattle Park—both were enjoyed. Work in church continues in great heart, attendances being good. Offering for aborigines mission amounted to £34/10/-. A baptismal service was held at midweek meeting, when Mrs. Butler was baptised. Mr. and Mrs. Butler were received into fellowship by Mr. Wiltshire at morning service, Feb. 12.

Mitcham.—On Jan. 26 annual business meeting was held, Messrs. Boover and Westmore being elected to official board. Good reports were received from all departments, the financial statement being very satisfactory. On Jan. 29, splendid meetings were enjoyed. In evening Mr. Cameron preached to a large congregation. Two young women were baptised at close. Church adjourned to kinder hall to say farewell to Bruce Rayment who has entered Melbourne Bible Institute. Mr. Cameron presented him with a travelling rug from members. On Feb. 5 Bible school had a record attendance. Mr. Cameron gave helpful addresses morning and evening. C.E. society had a visit from Endeavourers at Bayswater, when testimonies of blessings received at Upwey were given. Women's Mission Band gathered on 7th at home of Sister J. Burden and were entertained to lunch to meet Sister Dunn, from Bunyip, who is in isolation.

Ormond.—Church is back to normal after holidays; clubs are functioning again. Sunday school is gradually improving, 130 being present on Feb. 12. Addresses of visiting speakers have been appreciated. Brethren who have helped are Messrs. Buckmaster, Hopkins, T. R. Marriott, R. W. Marriott, Sumpton, Hood, Bradley, Kosee, Booth. On A.N.A. day church held a picnic at Ferny Creek. At gospel service, Jan. 29, a young woman made good confession, when Mr. Sumpton was speaker. On evening of Feb. 12, H. B. Robbins was preacher. Miss Shirley Bean was baptised. Mr. Gale conducted at baptismal service. Church is happy at having secured services of R. W. Vautier as preacher. He will commence his ministry on May 7. Two young people of church, David McMillan and Joan Blackwell, were married by W. G. Graham on Jan. 21. Memorial Church Committee has nearly £700 in bank for proposed memorial chapel. Work is in good heart, and services are well attended.

Castlemaine.—Mr. and Mrs. Banks have returned from holiday. During Mr. Banks' absence help from Mr. Martin, of Bendigo, was much appreciated. Two families have been added by transfer — Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson, of St. Kilda, and Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, of South Yarra churches. An exchange programme with ladies of Stockport, England, was used as subject for opening meeting of year for ladies' meeting. Young people, with help of others, are working hard constructing two tennis courts.

Wangaratta.—Bible schools and J.C.E. and Y.P.S.C.E. societies have re-commenced after holidays. On Feb. 5, an in memoriam service was held in honor of late George Jackel, speaker being W. Gale. A baptismal service was held on 12th, when Mrs. Renshaw was baptised. Soloists during month were Mrs. Aubrey Jackel and A. O. S. Beker. Home mission offering amounts to £31, through special boxes distributed for that purpose. Mrs. Trippett has been ill. Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Living have departed for a further period of work among the aborigines in Blue Mountain area, N.S.W. Sympathy of church is extended to Mrs. Lloyd Jackel in loss of her father, A. Hessey. During Mr. Baker's absence on holidays, Mr. Bert Franks addressed services helpfully.

Oakleigh.—Addresses by K. J. Patterson continue to inspire worshippers. Ray Perry responded, Jan. 22, to make confession of faith. H. J. Patterson was welcome speaker on Jan. 29. Attendances at services have increased. Mr. and Mrs. Weyams, from Bentleigh, have been welcomed to membership. F. Elliott, of East Kew, gave an excellent talk at youth tea, Feb. 5, R. Bust and M. Parnell as readers, and a girls' choir assisted at young people's evening service. Mrs. E. Sweetman provided enjoyable musical programme for Young Women's Fellowship, Feb. 1. Other auxiliaries have commenced year's activities. Cricket club's success has been varied. Ken Masterton has returned to Kaniva district, after school teaching vacation. Thelma Hazeldene has moved to Wangaratta.

Ivanhoe.—Mr. Baird continues to render faithful service. A special series of meetings has been held recently on Tuesday evenings in chapel for prayer, Bible study and discussion. A special meeting was held on Feb. 7, speakers being Leonard Buck, of Campaigners for Christ, and Mr. Lechte, M.L.A., for Oakleigh, who discussed evangelical and social aspect of the gospel. A lively discussion ensued. F. Chipperfield was a capable chairman. Mr. and Mrs. Dixon, missionaries-elect for India, enjoyed fellowship with church on Lord's day, Feb. 5. Young people of Bible school have a keen interest in work of these new missionaries. Preparations for commencing building a manse for church are being made. Successful Bible school picnic was held on A.N.A. day at Seaford. Ivanhoe and North Ivanhoe Bible schools are making steady progress, and new teachers have been added to staffs.

Kaniva.—Mr. Combridge has returned after holidays. Annual business meeting was held Friday evening, Feb. 10; 39 attended. Those elected were: Elders, R. M. Williams, C. M. Wheaton, A. F. Williams; deacons, R. C. Goldsworthy, R. W. Rowe, H. L. Williams, D. R. Williams, C. S. Crouch, H. C. Wheaton, A. M. Goldsworthy, G. Champness, E. G. Thompson, A. J. Goldsworthy; secretary, R. C. Goldsworthy; treasurer, R. W. Rowe. Reports were presented from various departments of C.E., Sunday schools, W.M.B., Y.W.C.F., boys' club, social committee, secretary, preacher, treasurers and building committee. These revealed that much work had been done in name of church. Mission Band, J.C.E. and treasurers' reports were particularly encouraging. Church attendance recently has been fair, with a total average of 55 members attending services held at Kaniva, Yeringa and South Lillimur, either morning or afternoon. About 40 attend gospel service at 7.30 p.m. Sunday school has been in recess for several weeks. Junior and Intermediate C.E. have continued throughout

holidays and are doing a fine work in training young people.

Brunswick.—Work continues quietly. During Mr. Vautier's absence on holidays, local brethren, together with Mr. Funston, North Essendon, conducted Lord's Day services. Sunday school picnic, held at Wattle Glen, was a success. Scholars are now practising for anniversary, under leadership of Mr. N. Haddow. Church has learned with regret of Mr. Vautier's resignation to accept a call to another district. His ministry has been fruitful, despite most difficult circumstances. Church's sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. W. Jenkin and family in recent bereavement. The late Linley Jenkin's gracious witness is fondly remembered.

Essendon.—Mr. McIlhagger spoke at both services on Jan. 7. Mrs. Marr and Mrs. Ross, S.A., rendered duet at evening service. A youth service was held on Jan. 14. All auxiliaries were present and responded at roll call. N. Cheal, K.S.P. chaplain, gave address. Young ladies of choir rendered quartette. S. Fordham, of Moreland, presided at morning service on Jan. 21; Mr. Wright delivered address. Mr. McIlhagger was speaker at all services on Jan. 28, Feb. 5 and 12. Children's dedication service was conducted by Mr. McIlhagger at morning meeting on Feb. 5. Mr. and Mrs. Neill were welcomed into fellowship. A family service was held in evening. Mr. Hemsley was soloist. Mr. Thompson presided on Feb. 12. Food collection was taken in evening. Mrs. Lynch rendered a solo. Mrs. H. Casson and Mr. Watson have been welcomed back after illness. Mrs. Casson (sen.), and Mrs. B. J. Kemp are absent from meetings through illness. Mrs. Syme and Mr. Murdoch are in hospital. All auxiliaries have commenced meetings for new year. Miss Loris Pitt and H. Crawford were married on Jan. 28.

News of British Churches

BRITISH churches always await with interest the announcement of the name of the fraternal delegate from U.S.A. We have recently learned that Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Austin have been appointed by the churches of America and Canada to be delegates, and they will attend the annual conference, to be held at Liverpool next August.

The Central Council has designated A. L. Brown to be the fraternal delegate from Britain to the Disciple Convention to be held at Oklahoma in October. Mr. Brown is tutor at Overdale College, having formerly been on the staff of the Home Missions Committee, at same time acting as secretary to that committee and to Central Council. Such exchanges greatly enrich life of churches.

Notts District Fellowship of Youth has begun a work which is likely to have a permanent result. An exhibition has been planned to show what the churches are doing. By means of photographs, charts, etc., the work of standing committees and individual churches will be illustrated. As the material for the exhibition came to hand, it was realised that much of it was of historical value, and likely to be of permanent interest to the churches. Steps are being taken to keep the exhibition in permanent form, and to send it to different parts of the country.

Sunday School and Youth Committee proposes to endow a S.S. and youth section of library in the new Overdale College, to be a memorial of its late chairman, Frank Hepworth.

Missionary Committee has made available to churches film strips of mission work in India.

Forty-first church anniversary at Evington-rd., Leicester, coincided with completion of twenty-one years' ministry by Mr. W. Mander.

Miss D. M. Mills, a member of church at Leamington, has been awarded the British Empire Medal for services in connection with the Women's Land Army.—G. J. Hammond.

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

Holiday shack, Sorrento. Accommodate four people. Water, electric light. £2/10/- week. Vacant from Mar. 31-Apr. 6; Apr. 18-May 7; June 5-Sept. 16.—C. Gadge, 49 Springfield-rd., Blackburn. WX 1349.

DEATHS

JENKIN.—At Melbourne, Feb. 10, Linley Harold, dearly loved nephew of Eva M. Paul, cousin of Muriel (Mrs. A. Arnup) and Nan. —Dundas-rd., Inglewood, W.A.

JENKIN.—On Feb. 10, Linley, of 83 Waverley-pde., Pascoe Vale South, dearly beloved husband of Florence, and darling daddy of John and Pamela. Some day we'll understand.

JENKIN.—On Feb. 10, at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, Linley, beloved son of William and Mary, and brother of Os, Gwen, Harry and Nettie. The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended.

IN MEMORIAM

AUSTIN.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Albert, father of Bonny and foster father of Dorothy, who died suddenly Feb. 24, 1927. Treasured memories.

—Inserted by his wife, Minnie, and son, Bonny.

BLACKWELL.—In loving memory of my dear mother, who passed away Feb. 12, 1946. Your memory to us is a treasured keepsake we will keep forever in our hearts.

—Inserted by her loving daughter Hazel, son-in-law Frank, grand-daughter Norma.

BOETTCHER.—In fond and loving memory of my dear wife and loving mother, Johanna Boettcher, who was called home on Feb. 27, 1943.

"Your memory is a keepsake,
With which we will never part,
God has you in his keeping,
We have you in our heart."

—Always remembered by her loving husband J. Boettcher and daughters Alma (Mrs. Pieper) and Olga (Mrs. Hinrichsen).

GORDON.—In loving memory of our dear ones, Dad and Lily, who passed away Jan. 23, 1933, and Feb. 17, 1936. To memory dear.

We speak of the land of the blest,
That country so bright and so fair,
And oft are its glories confessed,
But what must it be to be there?
—Inserted by Mrs. Gordon and family.

WEDD.—Everlasting are the memories of our dear son and brother, Keith, who fell asleep in Jesus Feb. 27, 1946.

"We shall see him one bright morning,
Waiting on the other side;
We shall see his dear face smiling,
Not changed but glorified."
—Longed for always by Mum, Dad and Elaine.

COMING EVENT.

MARCH 19 (Sunday).—Meeting of Eastern Suburban Youth Fellowship in Hartwell chapel at 4.30 p.m. Meeting will be a P.S.A., with Mr. Gomm as speaker. All invited.

NORTH WILLIAMSTOWN 62nd ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.

Theme: "A Crusading Church."

Sun., Feb. 26, 11 a.m., "The Crusader Quality," F. B. Alcorn.

7 p.m., "The Crusade Captain," K. A. Jones.
Tues., Feb. 28, 8 p.m., "The Captain's Call to Children," G. Wilson.

Wed., Mar. 1, 8 p.m., "The Captain of All," D. D. Stewart.

Thurs., Mar. 2, 8 p.m., "The Captain of Youth," J. K. Bond.

Sun., Mar. 5, 11 a.m., "The Crusader in Action," G. A. Grainger.

7 p.m., "The Victorious Crusader," C. Young.
Musical items arranged by A. Haskell.

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.

SWANSTON ST. (opp. Public Library)

SUNDAY, FEB. 26

11 a.m. — Series on the World Council of Churches — "The Charge Against the World Council."

4.30 p.m. — Studies in Daniel.

7 p.m. — "The Problem of Human Sin."

Preacher: K. A. Macnaughtan.

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.

CARNEGIE CHURCH OF CHRIST.

J. E. Webb, of Adelaide, will lead the church in a special "Crusade" effort from

MARCH 5 to 19.

Sister churches are requested to specially support week-night meetings with delegations. (No meetings Fridays and Saturdays.) Ring UL 6976.

Mar. 5, 11 a.m., Every-member-present Sunday.

Mar. 12, 11 a.m., Past and present members' reunion Sunday.

BOOKS BY J. SIDLOW BAXTER.

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(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

MAY I express through your columns the anxiety which some feel because of the association which Australian churches of Christ now have with the World Council of Churches? The perfect sincerity of those who favor this association is not questioned. But I believe I give expression to the feelings of many in claiming that our affiliation with this organisation is regrettable, first, because of the nature of the plea of churches of Christ, then because of the nature of the W.C.C.

There seems to have been a growing misapprehension, among even some of our preaching brethren, that the Restoration Movement stands for church union. But such was never the plea which called churches of Christ into being. We have stood for the unity of Christians in a restored New Testament church, not the union of denominations on a man-made and, in the case of the W.C.C., totally inadequate platform.

Even more concern, however, is caused by the nature of the organisation into which we have been led by the decision of Federal Conference in 1946. The W.C.C. presents only one doctrinal statement as a basis; it claims to be a fellowship of churches which accept Jesus "as God and Saviour." Pleasing as that may seem, its force is completely vitiated by the explanatory statements attached to it; they are: (1) That the foundation is not a touchstone, whereby the faith of churches or persons can be judged. (2) That the council does not concern itself with the manner in which the churches will interpret the foundation. (3) That it is left to the responsibility of every church to decide whether it will co-operate on this basis.

These rob the one doctrinal statement of any value it may have had to men of evangelical belief.

Moreover, through the W.C.C. we are now linked in fellowship with Eastern Orthodox churches, whose belief and practice is entirely opposed to scripture and to the gospel we profess to preach. Doctrines we repudiate, as worship of the virgin, prayers for the dead and to the saints, etc., are held by these churches. Part of the offerings requested for "rehabilitation" of Europe will go to building colleges to train "orthodox" priests to teach these abhorrent doctrines.

Then the attitude towards Rome is completely unsatisfactory. That church is hailed as a "sister Christian communion," and would the pope but agree, can have full affiliation with the W.C.C. Indeed, so lax have some of our own brethren become that, in an address published and distributed by decision of the Victorian Conference, 1949, Rome is twice called a "Christian" body. This every Protestant should repudiate. That the Lord may have some lambs even in that lions' den may be allowed, but the "mother of harlots" is not a Christian church.

Even worse is the fact that the W.C.C. is now largely under the leadership of "modernists" whose repudiation of Christian fundamentals is complete. E.g., Bishop Oxnham, who actually adopted a reference to the God of the O.T. as "a dirty bully," has been made a president of the W.C.C. American churches of Christ, fundamental in belief, are outside the W.C.C.; we are affiliated through the "Disciples," whose lapse from N.T. Christianity and Restoration principles has become notorious.

Finally, I emphasise that, with our congregational form of government, no church of Christ

need consider itself bound by the decision of conference, but may immediately repudiate all association with the W.C.C.—K. A. Macnaughtan, Melbourne.

Obituary

Mrs. Lovell

ON Jan. 25, at Bendigo Hospital, Mrs. Lovell was called home to be with Christ at the advanced age of 90. Born in Bendigo, our sister lived here all her life, and died on the 62nd anniversary of her marriage. Her first contact with churches of Christ was in 1927, when she made her decision for Christ at the Hinrichsen-Brooker mission. Of a quiet, retiring nature, she lived a quiet Christian life, but was hindered from having fellowship with church towards the end of her life by a hearing disability. Funeral took place at Bendigo cemetery, the writer officiating. To sorrowing relatives church extend deep sympathy.—C.J.R.

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