

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NUMBER.

# THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

CIRCULATING AMONGST THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH AND NEW ZEALAND.

Vol. VI., No. 22. MELBOURNE, MAY 28, 1903. Subscription, 6s. per Annum.  
*Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission by post as a Newspaper.*



## The Sixth Annual Conference —OF— Churches of Christ in West Australia

WILL BE HELD (D.V.) ON  
MONDAY, 8TH JUNE, 1903,

—IN THE—  
\* \* TOWN HALL, PERTH. \* \*

Luncheon and Tea will be provided by the Sisters of Subiaco and Lake Street at 1/- per Meal.

Every Brother and Sister from the Coastal Churches  
IS EXPECTED TO COME  
And as many from the Goldfields as can get away in order to

**DISCUSS MISSION WORK,**  
*Sunday Schools and Temperance.*

DEVOTIONAL MEETING. BUSINESS SESSION.

\* \* \* \* \*  
**GREAT HOME MISSION MEETING AT EVENING!**

Come prepared to help in a RECORD CONTRIBUTION and to INCREASE YOUR PROMISE for the YEAR'S WORK. Remember West Australia's Motto:

**500 SOULS for CHRIST, £1000 for HOME MISSIONS.**

\* \* \* \* \*  
*Great Temperance Meeting, Lake St. Chapel, Tuesday, June 9, at 7.45.*

**THE AUSTRAL PUBLISHING CO**  
... 528 • ELIZABETH STREET • • • MELBOURNE • • •

# Sixth Annual Conference of Associated Churches of Christ

in West Australia.

## Reports of Committees.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

1. INTRODUCTORY.—In presenting our reports for the year 1902-3 we humbly acknowledge the grace and guidance of the great God, our heavenly Father, and reverently pray that the year's work may be to his honor and glory, and the extension of his kingdom on earth.

In view of the Victorian Jubilee Conference being held on Good Friday this year, it was decided to postpone our own Conference to June 8th, in order to ensure a more successful gathering than would have been probable with many of our brethren absent from the State, and to give many an opportunity of being present in Victoria who would not otherwise have gone. The reception accorded to our representatives was of the most cordial nature, ample opportunity being given to explain the conditions and growth of the cause in Western Australia, whereby much of the prejudice that appears to have existed will, we trust, be removed.

It will be noted that, as a result of the postponement, the reports in some cases cover more than the usual twelve months' work; but the *statistical tables* and *financial statement* are for the period of twelve months ending February 28th, 1903, in order to preserve their value for comparison.

2. STATISTICS (to be taken with statistical tables. Numbers in parentheses are for year 1901-2).—As will be seen by the accompanying tables, the number of churches in this Association is now 11 (9), with a total membership of 967 (709); we do not, as in former years, include in the total the isolated members whose names are *not* on church rolls, as we recognise that they do not add to our effective strength, but give to our figures a fictitious value. The total gains have been 390 (212), losses 131 (59), showing a net gain of 259 (153). The additions for March and April by faith have been 120, and the estimated membership in the State is now 1087.

The number of Sunday Schools is still 7 (7), with 728 (667) scholars and 78 (59) teachers; additions to church have been 47 (43), being 20.5% (33%) of the total additions by faith and obedience. During the year, Sunday School Unions were formed on the Fields and Coast, reports from which appear elsewhere.

3. FINANCES (to be taken with Treasurer's statement. Figures in parentheses are for last year).—The year commenced with a balance of £24/9/1, and throughout the

twelve months the Treasurer's requirements have been well met. The total contributions have amounted to £531/12/5 (£416/5/-), the expenditure £537/1/3 (£468/13/1), leaving a balance of £47/1/3. The statement shows clearly the sources of revenue and items of expenditure. We have to thank the brethren at Menzies for the loan of £27/11/- without interest, to be repaid at three months' notice if required to re-start the cause at Menzies; we trust it will soon be required. In addition to the amounts shown under thankofferings in connection with the special missions, sums of £10 from the church at Kalgoorlie and £14/12/6 from the church at Subiaco were received too late for inclusion; the total thankoffering is £59/4/2. The expenditure for March and April has exhausted the balance in hand at the end of the financial year.

4. A. JOHNSON.—We regret that in February our Assistant Secretary was compelled to resign office, owing to his departure from the State to reside permanently in Melbourne, and we desire to express our appreciation of his painstaking effort in the performance of his duties. At the request of the Committee, Bro. Garland has kindly undertaken the duties *pro tem*.

MEETINGS.—During the year enthusiastic meetings were held to welcome Bren. Campbell and Hagger to the State.

The meetings of the Home Mission Committee have numbered 16, and the attendances have been:—A. Bell, 11; D. A. Ewers, 12; D. M. Wilson, 16; R. Redman, 9; J. H. Gibson, 12; G. R. Preston, 11; W. Vinnicombe, 13; H. Wright, 11; H. Gould, 16; Schofield, 12; A. Johnson, 14 (resigned); A. Lightfoot, 16.

6. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—We have to record our thanks to the officers of Fremantle, Subiaco and Perth churches for the use of the buildings for the various meetings; to the Auditors for their valued services; and to the sisters for their very successful efforts in providing for the social part of our various meetings held during the year.

On behalf of the Executive Committee,

ALBANY BELL, Pres.

ARTHUR A. LIGHTFOOT, Sec.

### HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

I. H. J. BANKS.

Immediately following last Conference, Bro. Banks conducted a mission in the tent at Fremantle for eight nights, after which he spent a month on holidays, Bro. Quick being engaged to occupy his place. During

this time Bro. Banks visited Albany, where he distributed several hundred tracts and conducted eight services. Of Albany, Bro. Banks reported: "There are eighteen or twenty baptised believers in the town, five of whom are actually members with us; there is certainly an opening for a church, and could we station a suitable man there for a few months good work might be done." The rest of the year was spent at Boulder, where, in addition to the regular work, Bro. Banks conducted a mission in the chapel for fifteen nights during May, and later at Brown Hill a mission for eight nights. Occasional visits were paid to Coolgardie and Kanowna to assist the brethren in those towns. During the year the church at Boulder has progressed, as the following figures show:—Additions by faith and obedience, 30; restoration, 1; formerly immersed, 3; total, 34. It is in a good condition, and the coming year should see further extension work. The special mission conducted by Bro. Hagger resulted in an increased public interest and nine additions. It was decided that Bro. Banks be granted leave of absence for a well-earned holiday, and that he be transferred to Subiaco on his return.

2. R. J. CLOW.

Early in the year, Bro. Clow retired from the work at Coolgardie, removing from this State to South Australia, where we are pleased to note success has been attending his ministry. At Coolgardie, since Bro. Clow's departure, the preaching has been maintained by the local brethren (assisted by occasional visits from Bren. Banks and Campbell), who are worthy of praise for their long-sustained effort; but if good progress is to be made in this important field, it is necessary that a resident evangelist be appointed without delay. During the year 11 have been added by faith, but the losses by transfer have exceeded the gains by 4, the membership being now 67.

3. LAWSON CAMPBELL.

In pursuance of the decision of Conference to station a preacher at Kalgoorlie, W. G. L. Campbell, of York, S.A., was induced to take up the work, and arrived in the State during the month of June last. His work has been principally confined to Kalgoorlie, with occasional visits to Coolgardie and Kanowna. Until the arrival of Bro. Campbell the preaching had been conducted by the local brethren. During August a fortnight's special mission was conducted with excellent results; three were added by faith, and great interest was aroused. A second mission

was conducted by Bro. Hagger in the tent during part of February and March; six were added by faith, and the cause in Kalgoorlie was given a great impetus. The coming year is expected to show good results by the combined effort of the church and evangelist following up the interest that has been aroused. During the year 9 have been added by faith and obedience, and the membership has increased from 33 to 47.

#### 4. T. HAGGER.

Arrangements were made with Bro. Hagger, of North Richmond, Victoria, with the result that in November last he entered upon a series of special missions conducted in the tent at Perth, Fremantle, Kalgoorlie and Subiaco, and in the chapel of Boulder. The engagement was in the first place for a period of three months, but it was found inexpedient to adhere to the original programme, and the time was consequently extended to five months. The action of the Committee in arranging for Bro. Hagger's visit has been fully justified by the splendid results attained, which will have a marked effect on the future of the cause in this State. The visible results are as follows:—218 addresses delivered; 188 additions to church membership, including restorations and baptised believers from the denominations; 36 others professed, but up to the time of writing had not been immersed. The additions are distributed among the churches as follows:—Perth, 38; Fremantle, 63; Leederville, 3; Coolgardie, 1; Boulder, 9; Kalgoorlie, 6; Subiaco, 67. It is to be noted that the decisions at Subiaco numbered 85, and showed the best percentage of accessions, viz., 78, but they were distributed among the other coastal churches. The amount contributed as thankofferings is £59/9/2. We are gratified to learn that Bro. Hagger has accepted a lengthy engagement with the church at High-st., Fremantle, and is desirous of spending some of his time in conducting special missions throughout the State. We trust suitable arrangements will be made to this end.

#### 5. T. H. SCAMBLER.

The Committee during February entered into engagement with T. H. Scambler, of Ecbuca, Victoria, to labor on the Eastern Goldfields. Bro. Scambler was welcomed at a combined meeting held in Lake-st. on May 7th, and left the following day to work with the church at Boulder, where, during the absence of Bro. Banks, the local brethren have maintained the preaching services.

#### 6. SUBIACO.

In response to the application of the church at Subiaco, it was decided to transfer Bro. Banks to that district on his return to the State. During the year we hope to see the cause in this rising suburb become self-supporting and able to assist weaker churches.

#### 7. PREACHING STAFF.

It will be seen that the preaching staff in the State has been greatly strengthened during the year, and it is confidently hoped that the coming year will see equally good additions in order to force along the work. In connection with the engagement of preachers, we would recommend that the Home Mission Committee be in future

authorised to arrange for a full year's engagement at any time between Conference.

#### FUTURE WORK.

Contemplation of the cheering results of the past year's work must not cause us to rest satisfied, but rather give us courage to press forward. At present we are firmly established in six principal centres; our mission is to preach the primitive gospel in every community throughout the State. As offering perhaps the most likely fields for early efforts, we might specially mention those places where are already existing meetings of the brethren, viz., Leederville, Kanowna, Southern Cross and Menzies. In the south-west district we are pleased to note that a meeting has been started at Bunbury, which will, we hope, be a centre in which to inaugurate evangelistic efforts in the district; with the presence of brethren at Collie and Harvey, we are of opinion that a good circuit could be formed and the three positions worked to advantage.

There are many populous towns ready and waiting, and the brotherhood must realise the importance of becoming established and getting a firm hold of the State while the population is comparatively small. Never before has the cause been in such a fit condition to make advances, and probably never again will there be such an opportunity in Australia as now offers in this western and rapidly growing State. While the State attracts general population, the brethren must see that they attract the best preachers that are to be obtained, whether from within or without Australia. Only by active, energetic, pushing work will great things be accomplished, and it should be the aim of every brother and sister to make Western Australia a stronghold of primitive Christianity. Our motto for the coming year should be—

**500 Souls for Christ,  
£1000 for Home Missions.**

During the past year our contributions amounted to 15/- per member. This year our membership is over 1000. If our giving to the Lord's work is increased by 5/- per member, our aspirations will be realised.

The unqualified success of tent missions as a means of building up the cause where churches already exist, and of extending to new fields, leads us to recommend that an earnest and energetic effort be made to support a State evangelist to work continuously with the tent; we are of opinion that the whole-hearted efforts of the brotherhood in the State to this end will result in the proposal becoming an accomplished fact before next Conference. If such a movement were inaugurated at the present time, it is safe to predict that in ten years each town of any size would have a church pleading for a union of Christ's followers. The privilege is ours, and it rests with this Conference to grasp or reject the great opportunity.

On behalf of the H.M. Committee,

ALBANY BELL, Pres.  
ARTHUR A. LIGHTFOOT, Sec.

#### FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE.

In presenting the first annual report your Committee is pleased to be able to announce

a growing interest in world-wide evangelism and an increase of practical sympathy with our workers in the heathen fields.

#### I. OFFICERS.

At our first meeting J. Pallott was appointed chairman of the Committee, A. Gardner Treasurer, and D. A. Ewers Secretary.

#### 2. FEDERATION.

Your Committee applied for and received admission into the Foreign Mission Federation, now consisting of Committees appointed at the Annual Conference in Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales and West Australia. For convenience sake the Victorian Committee acts as the Executive, engaging Missionaries, and receiving and disbursing funds from all the States, but no matter of importance is undertaken before consultation with the other Committees named.

#### 3. OUR MISSIONARIES.

Missionaries are now supported by Australasian brethren through our F. M. Federation as follows:—In India, Sister Mary Thompson and Bro. and Sister F.E. Stubbin; in Japan, P. A. Davey; in China, Sister Rose Tonkin; among the Kanakas of Queensland, Bro. and Sister J. Thompson. Sister Mary Abgan is also engaged among the Chinese in Victoria at present. Besides the above there are several native evangelists and helpers employed in India, and Chinese classes are conducted in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide.

#### 4. FINANCES.

The July collection was taken up this year by the churches in Perth, Fremantle, Leederville, Coolgardie and Boulder, but the Fremantle collection having been sent direct to the Melbourne Treasurer does not appear in our balance sheet. At our suggestion the churches in Perth, Fremantle, Subiaco and Leederville appointed collectors to wait upon brethren individually, and collect small regular amounts. More than one third of the amount raised in the State came through this channel, and it is hoped that next year collectors will be appointed in all the churches. The total receipts for the year were £70/18/7, or including £13/4/9 sent direct to the Victorian Treasurer, £84/3/4. This was a decided advance on last year, when the receipts were £39/19/9, and exceeds the amount suggested for this State by the General Committee. We are pleased to note that the Perth Christian Endeavor Society collected from its own members £11. We suggest that the standard be raised to at least £100 this year.

#### 5. SUNDAY SCHOOL COLLECTION.

At the suggestion of your Committee a collection was taken up in each of our Sunday Schools in the State, and the amount collected was sent to Sister Thompson, of Harda, India, who forwarded it on to the Damoh Orphanage, where the hearts of hundreds of orphans were cheered by the bountiful Christmas cheer provided by our S.S. children of West Australia.

#### 6. FUTURE WORK.

We would recommend that where practicable public meetings be held during the coming year in connection with our churches, in order to the extension of knowledge con-

## Associated Churches of Christ in West Australia.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED FEBRUARY 28th, 1903.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
Balance forward from previous year	.. .. £24 19 1	Salaries and Expenses—H. J. Banks	.. .. £234 0 0
Contributions—Churches—Perth	.. .. £72 10 3	L. Campbell	.. .. 143 10 0
Fremantle	.. .. 10 0 0	R. Clow	.. .. 32 10 0
Harvey	.. .. 4 7 6	C. Quick	.. .. 15 0 0
Coolgardie	.. .. 42 5 6	Special Tent Mission—Bro. Hagger's Salary and Expenses	.. .. 425 0 0
Kalgoorlie	.. .. 54 1 0	Special Contributions to Kalgoorlie Tent Mission—	
Boulder	.. .. 155 0 0	Freight, etc., on Tent	.. .. 3 6 7
Menzies	.. .. 4 0 0	Kalgoorlie Church	.. .. 12 13 5
	342 4 3	Fremantle Tent Mission Expenses	.. .. 16 0 0
Individual	.. .. 79 6 0	Conference Expenses—Advertising	.. .. 0 12 0
Special Tent Mission—Perth Church	.. .. 15 0 0	Printing and Stationery	.. .. 4 6 0
Fremantle Church	.. .. 10 0 0	Nicholson & Co.	.. .. 1 0 0
Goldfields Executive	.. .. 15 0 0	Printing and Stationery	.. .. 5 18 0
Bro. Lucraft	.. .. 5 0 0	Incidental Expenses and Postage	.. .. 3 0 6
	45 0 0	Federal Capital Fund	.. .. 8 9 6
Thankoffering—Perth Church	.. .. 17 9 8	Bank Charge Keeping a/c	.. .. 0 16 0
Fremantle Church	.. .. 11 0 0	Balance—Ordinary	.. .. 19 10 3
Boulder Church	.. .. 6 2 0	Loan from Menzies Church	.. .. 27 11 0
	34 11 8		47 1 3
Kalgoorlie Tent Mission—Perth Church	.. .. 5 0 0		
Fremantle Church	.. .. 5 0 0		
A. Bell	.. .. 5 0 0		
A. Johnson	.. .. 1 0 0		
	16 0 0		
Conference Collection	.. .. 9 12 0		
Missionary Meeting Collection	.. .. 4 2 6		
Federal Capital Fund	.. .. 0 16 0		
Loan from Menzies Church	.. .. 27 11 0		
	£584 2 6		£584 2 6

March 31st, 1903.

HY. WRIGHT, Treas.

Audited and found correct,

W. M. BENNETT } Auditors.  
G. R. HUGHES }

cerning the needs and progress of the work in heathen lands. We also suggest that we aim to raise at least £100 within the State for the gospel work in the regions beyond.

## 7. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS.

Six Committee meetings have been held, the attendance being as follows:—J. Pallott, 5; A. Gardner, 5; E. H. Bailey, 4; D. A. Ewers, 5; Mrs. G. H. Marsh, 3; Miss A. Campbell, 6; Mrs. D. Ewers, 4.

J. T. PALLOTT, Chairman.  
D. A. EWERS, Secretary.

## GOLDFIELDS DISTRICT SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

On behalf of the Union we have to lay before the Conference the following report of work done:—

The Union having been formed so recently as May, 1902, we cannot lay before you any comparative work, as we have no previous records.

The work of the Union was taken up very energetically by the officers of the schools. The three schools on the Fields are affiliated with the Union, with a total roll call of 201 scholars, which is an increase of 40 during the first six months, with 19 teachers; the honorary membership is 74.

At the recent examinations 28 scholars competed, the results not being known at the time of writing.

We have to thank several South Australian brethren for acting as a board of examiners, and the Victorian S.S.U. for help in the formation of our Union.

The Union having two visitors, the schools are visited every quarter and reported at quarterly meetings.

At the end of the present month (May) we hold the S.S. demonstration and distribution of prizes; by the interest already displayed it should be a great success.

Our finances are in a very satisfactory condition, and we feel that we have much to thank God for. With the prospect of amalgamation with the Coastal Union, we go forward with the hope that God will guide us in the future to greater work and progress in the Sunday Schools of Western Australia.

H. J. BANKS, Pres.  
GEO. BANKS, Vice-Pres.  
C. E. POND, Treas.  
J. STUART MILL, Hon. Sec.

## COASTAL DISTRICTS SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

In compliance with the recommendation of last Conference, a meeting of representatives from the schools at Fremantle, Subiaco and Perth was convened by the Conference Secretary at Subiaco, on July 10th, 1902, when it was unanimously decided to form a Union of the schools then represented, to be known as the "Coastal Sunday School Union in connection with churches of Christ." A constitution was adopted, and the following officers appointed:—President, J. Pallott, Sen.; Vice-President, G. Payne; Secretary, R. Ewers; Assistant-Secretary, A. Santwyk; Treasurer, A. Bell; Visitors, D. M. Wilson, A. Lucraft and J. Vinnicombe, who with two delegates from each school and the respective

superintendents form the General Committee.

The Union now represents the following schools:—

	Scholars on Roll.	Increase for Year.	Teachers & Officers.	Increase for Year.
Fremantle	..218	.. 18	.. 20	.. 5
Perth	..205	.. 36	.. 20	.. 4
Subiaco	..120	.. 50 Dec.	.. 13	.. 1 Dec.
Woodlupine	20	.. 20	.. 2	.. 2
Totals	563		55	

Nett Increase—24 Scholars, 10 Teachers.

It has been decided to conduct annual examinations, the first of which will be held on July 17th for scholars, and on July 20th for teachers, the questions being on the lessons of the International Series for the second quarter of 1903; the papers are being prepared by Bren. Campbell and Scambler and Sister Mrs. Robinson, to whom the best thanks of the Committee are due for their kindly assistance in this respect.

The Union has hardly yet had time to make its advantages strongly felt, but it is anticipated that the coming year will see some substantial work done as a result of the free interchange of ideas among our Sunday School workers, which is bound to increase the efficiency of our work in teaching the young. It will be observed from the church statistics that the additions from schools in the Union to the churches have been 41, equal to nearly 23% of the total additions in the coastal churches. These figures will show the importance of our work, and we trust that there will be an awakening of the churches to their duties and responsibilities in the Sunday School movement. In some

WEST AUSTRALIA STATISTICS.  
FOR YEAR ENDING 28TH FEBRUARY, 1903.

CHURCH.	Membership, 1902.	Additions.				Losses.				Membership, 1903.	Increase.	Decrease.	Isolated Members on Roll.	Average Attendance Morning Meeting.	Additions, School to Church.	Sunday Schools.				Total Contributions to Home Mission Funds.									
		By Letter		By Faith.	Restoration or Formerly Inmersed.	By Letter		Revision of Roll.	Death.							1902.		1903.		Teachers Increase.	Teachers Decrease.	Scholars Increase.	Scholars Decrease.	1902.	Including Individual Contribut'ns. 1903.				
		From Outside State.	From Inside State.			Inside State.	Outside State.									Teachers.	Scholars.	Teachers.	Scholars.										
Boulder	83	10	4	31	4	13	2	2	3	112	29	8	55	3	6	55	14	110	8	55	68	12	6	42	5	6			
Bunbury*					11					11	11		8								16r	2	0						
Coolgardie	71		4	11		11	4		4	67			8								68	12	6	42	5	6			
Fremantle	180	16	8	83	6	1	1		2	289	109	4	22	27	1	5	45	6	32	1	13	77	2	0	37	18	0		
Harvey	10									10			110	16	15	200	20	215	5	18	77	2	0	37	18	0			
Kalgoorlie	33	9	2	8		3		1	1	47	14		6	26	2	2	12	5	43	3	31	34	8	0	54	1	0		
Kanowna	7									7			2	5							10	0	0						
Leederville*			16	1						17	17		5																
Menzies	12									12			14																
Perth	214	33	12	75	7	18	4	43	1	275	61		14	130	12	16	169	20	205	4	36	37	9	0	186	17	11		
Subiaco	98		6	21	1	10	1	6		109	11		2	60	13	14	170	13	120			9	1	3					
Southern Cross*					11					11	11		2								4	4	0						
<b>Total</b>	<b>708</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>967</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3†</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5†</b>

‡Special Collections, etc., £14/10/6.

‡Goldfields' Executive, £15/0/0.

†Individual Members (1902), £94/17/6.

\*New Churches.

Net Increase—Church Membership, 259; Sunday School Scholars, 61; Sunday School Teachers, 18.

Increase in Contributions, £129/12/2.

schools the difficulty of getting suitable teachers is acutely felt. We trust the coming year will see an end of this reproach. Since its formation the Union has held public meetings in the interests of Sunday School work in Perth and Subiaco.

As there is not at present a Union representative of the schools in the whole State (the Fields' schools having a separate Union) it is felt to be a necessity that an amalgamation be effected between the two Unions, in order to uniformity of method and exerting a greater influence; we are pleased to be able to report that negotiations are in progress which we trust will result in the foundation of a strong Union which will be capable of embracing every school in the State.

Our best thanks are due to the officers of Subiaco, Fremantle and Perth churches for the use of their buildings for our meetings.

On behalf of the Coastal S.S.U. Committee.  
R. W. EWERS, Secretary.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE.

1. The combined Committee appointed by the churches at Fremantle, Subiaco and Perth is unable to report any active temperance work conducted during the past year beyond the Bands of Hope carried on by some of our churches, an occasional address from the platform, and the usual Sunday School temperance lessons.

2. In our opinion the time has arrived when the brotherhood in Western Australia should be actively engaged in fighting the liquor trade as an organised body. We have in our membership enthusiastic workers who are able and willing to take a prominent part in the reform work, and such steps should be taken at this Conference as will ensure these brethren taking a leading part in all temper-

ance movements as representatives of the body of which we are members.

3. We recommend—

(a) That the Conference adopts prohibition as the policy to be followed in connection with the liquor traffic.

(b) That the first efforts in the prosecution of our policy should be to move the Legislature to introduce a measure giving the *direct veto*.

(c) That a Committee be appointed by Conference, to consist of 12 members (which number will include 1 President, 1 Vice-President, 1 Secretary, 1 Treasurer, and 1 Press Correspondent, who will constitute the Executive), who will be responsible to Conference, and whose functions will be to further the cause of temperance as seems best to them and in accord with the wish of Conference; such Committee to be elected annually by Conference.

(d) That a sub-committee of 7 members (who will elect their own officers) be appointed by the Goldfields churches, to work on the Fields in a similar capacity and in conjunction with the Central Committee.

(e) That the General Constitution of Conference be amended by the inclusion of the above paragraphs c and d.

On behalf of the combined Temperance Committee,

H. TAYLOR.  
W. A. SMITH.

The Field and the Forces.

THOS. HAGGER.

The population of the State of West Australia is at present in round numbers 218,000, of which number about 1100 are simply and only Christians, 1 in about every 198 of the people. These 1100 disciples are gathered into 11 congregations, 3 of which—

Fremantle, Perth and Subiaco—have over 200 members each. The church at Boulder has over 100 members, while the assemblies at Kalgoorlie, Coolgardie, Kanowna, Southern Cross, Bunbury, Harvey and Leederville have less than 100 each.

So far as the capital—Perth—is concerned, there is one congregation in the city and two in the suburbs, having together between 500 and 600 members out of a population of 36,200. In Perth proper there is room for other congregations, while there are such suburbs as Claremont, with 2100 residents, and Victoria Park, with 1300, where churches ought to exist.

The next place of importance is Fremantle; here we have one church of about 300 members in a population of about 21,000. North Fremantle, with 3300 inhabitants, and Beaconsfield and Plympton should each have congregations of the apostolic order; all of these places present open doors for the truth to enter.

Close to Perth, but outside the suburban area, there is Guildford, with a population of 1500, and Midland Junction, with 1600, in neither of which places has the banner of primitive Christianity been unfurled.

Looking at that part of the State south of the Eastern Goldfields Railway, what open doors can be seen! In this part there are only 2 small churches of about 12 members each, one at Bunbury and the other at Harvey; while such places as Albany, with 3600 people, Denmark with 800, Donnybrook with 850, Busselton with 500, York with 1400, Pingarra with 400, Esperance with 350 and likely in the near future to be a very important seaport, know nothing of the great plea for Christian unity by a complete return to apostolic Christianity.

Going north we meet with such places as

Continued on page 307.

THE  
**Australian Christian.**

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

At 528 Elizabeth St., Melbourne.

A. B. MASTON . . . . . EDITOR.

*All Communications* should be addressed to *The Austral Publishing Co., 528 Elizabeth Street, Carlton.*

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## The Leader.

Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths.—Jeremiah 6: 16.

### A Movement in the Direction of Unity.

According to the *Presbyterian Messenger* there seems to be a sort of unofficial movement on foot regarding the union of the Presbyterian and Methodist organisations. This is referred to as an "informal meeting held the other day between leading Presbyterian and Methodist churchmen to consider whether it might not be possible to bring together into one body those who should dwell together as brethren in unity. Strictly speaking, this was not a representative gathering, since it lacked authority from church courts." It is, however, regarded by the *Messenger* as a hopeful sign, and as a matter which should be of interest to every true Presbyterian and Methodist. And we might add that it is a

matter that has an interest for Christian men and women throughout the Commonwealth. For no one who has any love for Christ can be indifferent to any signs of a growing unity among the religious bodies. The desirability of this union has been expressed so often that it is now time that we saw some evidence that the sentiments so freely uttered were assuming practical shape. To a certain extent some evidence has been given in this direction already. Significantly enough this evidence has been given by the two bodies now under consideration. They have each set their respective houses in order by securing unity within their own borders. That they should now approach each other with overtures of unity is in every way appropriate. We are free to confess, however, that we did not expect that the Presbyterians and Methodists would form the first combination sought to be effected. We rather thought that the Presbyterians and the Congregationalists would find more in common and therefore coalesce together more easily. And, indeed, the first indications of unity seemed to be in this direction, but, so far, these indications have not materialised. The Congregationalists have receded into the background, and now the Methodists have come to the front.

We are glad to find that the Presbyterian organ in discussing the feasibility of the union between Presbyterians and Methodists does not consider that there are any insuperable hindrances in the way. It admits that there are not a few practical difficulties, but is sanguine enough to believe that these only require time and thought for solution. It is important to note that, so far, there is no hint of any serious doctrinal differences requiring adjustment. It seems to be taken for granted that there need be no discussion under this head. Whatever difficulties there may be are found more in reference to church polity and the adjustment of vested interests. It is hopeful to notice that these differences are not accentuated, but are regarded as having features that may be combined for the common good. For instance, the rigid style of a "settled" Presbyterian ministry might be modified to meet a less "movable" one than that now in vogue with the Methodists. This and other points are discussed in a friendly spirit, the general idea being that the best points in each should be utilised in any contemplated union. Generally speaking, we are of opinion that the union of these two bodies would be one of mutual benefit. The staid conservatism of Presbyterianism would be all the better for being leavened with the fire and radicalism of Methodism. If this union should be consummated it will be an interesting study to watch how these

distinctive qualities fuse into each other. It ought to eventuate in making a very high type of man. The Scotch Presbyterian with something of the fervor of the Methodist ought to be a great factor in the religious life of the world. But apart from this, it is beyond question that the union of these two bodies would be an immense gain in clearing the way for a still wider union. And because of this, the effort now being made has our hearty sympathy and best wishes.

But while we rejoice in these practical indications of a spirit of unity within a narrow area, we cannot but feel concerned about its absence in the wider circle of the whole religious world. In the words of Canon Henson we can say: "We look with growing dislike on the badges and symbols of denominational religion, and sigh for a more honest, because more spiritual, ordering of our Christianity. Finally there is the sad and shameful fact coming home daily with more force to the consciences of Christian men, that these 'unhappy divisions' of ours are hindering the world's conversion, and placing countless superfluous stumbling-blocks in the way of our Master's mission." It is the latter thought that presses most heavily upon us—the thought that the evangelisation and conversion of the world are hindered by the disunity of Christendom. It presses most heavily upon us when we consider its disastrous effects in Foreign Mission fields. Disunity is a sufficiently bad stumbling-block at home, but abroad in heathen fields it is nothing less than paralysing. At home, division has become familiar, and we know something of its history; but abroad, where nothing is known of how Christianity became divided, the effect is repelling to a degree that we have little conception of. In addition to this there is the immense waste of effort from want of proper organisation and methods. These and other things make our present effort to evangelise the heathen exceedingly weak, and in many cases almost futile. Without question, the greatest work before the church in the present day is the Christianising of the dense populations of India, China, Japan and Africa. It is not only a question of religion, but of civilisation. Bound up in this is the peace and prosperity of the world viewed from the political standpoint. It is a question of more than ordinary importance that a reawakened China, with all the scientific implements of war and peace in its possession, shall be imbued with the principles of Christianity, rather than be a vast horde animated by the hatred so recently exhibited in the Boxer uprising. To cope with this matter is the problem presented to the religious world to-day. A united church

may successfully solve the problem; a disunited one never will.

It seems to us, therefore, in view of the difficulties which surround the unity question at home, that an attempt should be made to solve it in connection with the work abroad. This would mean, in the first instance, the federation of all Protestant Missionary Societies throughout the world. It would mean a united effort on well thought out lines for the capture of heathendom. Such an effort would mean that all the dividing lines which at present exist should be swept away, and as involved in that the destruction of all existing creeds in favor of the simple teaching of the New Testament. It has been demonstrated over and over again that the theology of the creeds has no charm or attractive power for the heathen mind, but the simplicity of the New Testament never fails to provoke admiration, even if it fails to produce conviction. The great absurdity of missionary enterprise in the present day is that it takes our occidental divisions, creeds and manners and tries to force them into the lives and thoughts of orientals. It is in these directions that the need of reform is pressingly urgent. Such reform ought not to be difficult. It is one thing to ask those born in division to give up the things that divide, but it is quite another and a much simpler thing to ask that so far as the heathen is concerned he shall not be troubled with them. Let all the ecclesiastical trappings of a divided Christendom disappear in our contact with the populations of heathen lands, and we may expect great things, but not otherwise. A united, world-wide missionary federation, with only the simple gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ as taught and practised in apostolic days, would move the whole heathen world and bring it to the feet of Jesus. This unity, if once obtained abroad, would soon be followed by unity at home. The moral effect would be irresistible.

## Editorial Notes.

In fundamentals, Unity; in incidentals, Liberty;  
in all things, Love.

### W.A. Conference Reports.

The reports published in this issue for presentation at the West Australian Conference are full of encouragement. The number of churches has increased from 8 to 11, but of these one is a reorganisation. The nett increase of membership is 259, over 36% gain on last year's figures. The gain in Victoria for the same period was 13%, but such comparisons are misleading unless we take into account the different circumstances

of the two States. The increase of Sunday scholars was 61, a gain of 9%, as compared with the Victorian gain of over 19%. We may reasonably expect that the S.S. Union work just commencing will tell on future Conference statistics. There has been a gratifying growth of practical missionary sentiment. The Home Mission Fund advanced from £402 last year to £531 this year, while the Foreign Mission contribution of £84 was more than double that of the preceding year. That is to say that on the basis of last year's membership the W.A. brethren have given, on an average, 15/- each for Home and 2/4½ each for Foreign Missions. As will be seen by the reports, the success of the past year has been largely owing, under the blessing of God, to the tent mission work conducted by Bro. Hagger, and for which he is evidently specially adapted.

### The Field and the Forces.

Continued from page 305.

Cue, with a population of 1200, Geraldton with 2500, Dongara with 230, Carnarvon with 300, Roebourne with 320, Cossack with 200, and other places, but not a sign of the gospel as preached by the apostles.

Along the Eastern Goldfields Railway there is the little church of about 15 members at Southern Cross, and then about 140 miles further along a cluster of 4 churches at Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie, Boulder and Kanowna, with a combined membership of about 240 out of a population of about 18,000. On this line, 78 miles from Fremantle, there is the town of Northam, with 2100 residents and no church on New Testament lines; while on the goldfields beyond Kalgoorlie there are such places as Menzies, with 1500 people, where a church once existed and where there are still about 12 members, Broad Arrow with 550 people, Kookyine with 1700, Lenonora, Lawlers, and other places, in all of which pure Bible Christianity should be established.

So far as the fine agricultural districts are concerned there is only 1 church—at Harvey, already referred to.

Truly there is an immense field for evangelistic work in this vast State with its ever-increasing population. But will the results pay for the efforts? Is it worth while to try to establish churches of God all through this State, seeing there are such immense distances between the places? These questions should not be asked, seeing our Master's command is, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature"; but this is an age which always looks at the result of any work or enterprise. In about 11 years the membership of the churches in this State has risen from nil to 1100; constant accessions by faith and baptism are being received by the churches on the coast; on every hand enquiries are being made for "the old paths"; our special mission work here during the past half-year has yielded

better results than similar efforts in the East; all of which goes to show that "the fields are white unto harvest."

The question arises, How can the inviting fields of this State be entered and worked? It seems to me that special mission work will solve the problem of entrance, and a corp of young men (not necessarily college graduates, but young men with natural ability and hearts aglow for Christ) ready to step out into the evangelistic field as openings present themselves, together with the utilising of all available speaking talent in the churches, will solve the problem of working the fields after the entrance has been made. But what about the maintenance of the forces? The Home Mission Committee in maintaining evangelists for the next year in the three fields already occupied, viz., Boulder, Kalgoorlie and Subiaco, will require the sum of about £624, but the greater part of this will be raised by the churches assisted, and surely Subiaco or Boulder, or both, ought to be entirely self-supporting before the year is out. Two additional men are wanted, one to go to Coolgardie and the other to Bunbury, which would mean an additional outlay of about £320, a part of which will be borne by the churches assisted. To run the tent and other special mission work for the year with two brethren so employed would cost about £550, but much of this would come from the tent work itself, past experience justifying such an expectation. The employment of two more evangelists before the year has gone, to take the work in new fields opened by means of the special work, would cost say £156. This would bring a total expenditure for the year of £1650; but as two or three months of the year will be gone before the forward movement could be started the required sum will not exceed £1500. If such work were done it would mean the rapid extension of the work of restoring apostolic Christianity, the establishment of new churches, and the strengthening of those already in existence. Can the money be raised? An effort on the part of every congregation and every individual disciple would quickly find the required sum in a State like this, where the giving power of the people is greater than in the East. Can the men be found to enter the fields? Most assuredly; some of them are here in the churches in West Australia.

Let there be a rally all along the line; let us bring West Australia to the front and make it a stronghold for the Divine plea. Let there be "a long pull and a strong pull, and a pull all together," for the winning of 500 souls for Christ, the establishment of 5 new churches, and £1500 raised for Home Mission work before the Conference of 1904.

### Primitive Christianity in the Golden West.

D. A. EWERS.

Australasia forms about one-third of the area of the British Empire, and West Australia comprises about one-third of the area of Australasia. It is nine times the size of the United Kingdom and five times as large as France. With a length of 1450 miles,

a breadth of 850, and over 3000 miles of coast-line, it covers the immense area of 975,920 square miles. The only other State in the Commonwealth approaching it in magnitude is South Australia, with her immense Northern Territory, but she falls over 70,000 square miles behind. W.A. is more than three times the size of New South Wales and nine times that of New Zealand. It could swallow eleven Victorias, and after absorbing thirty-seven Tasmanias would still have a few thousand square miles to spare.

But what about the climate? Well, over this tremendous expanse we have all climates, but they are salubrious. The goldfields had a bad name for typhoid a while ago, but this was for insanitary causes. The climate at Kalgoorlie is similar to that of Adelaide, and some South Australian residents there told the writer they preferred it. With improvement in sanitation sickness is largely disappearing. W.A. is just as healthy as any other part of this Continent.

There is a common impression that West Australia consists chiefly of barren desert. Dampier, who visited the coast over two hundred years ago, said that "the only pleasure he had found in this part of his voyage was the satisfaction of having discovered the most barren spot on the face of the earth," and his hastily-formed conclusion has been too readily adopted. There are stretches of comparatively sterile country, but there is enough good land, agricultural and pastoral, to supply the whole of the Southern Hemisphere with food for generations to come. Settlement is now rapidly progressing. Agricultural townships are springing up, and farmers from the drought-stricken Eastern States are flocking into a country in the immense grain and fruit-bearing areas of which drought is practically unknown. In the meantime the mining industries are steadily developing. Gold is being obtained in ever-increasing quantities. Almost eight million pounds worth was raised in 1902, being nearly a million more than in all the rest of the Commonwealth combined. Victoria came second, but was nearly five millions behind. Coal in inexhaustible quantity is to be found in the South west, where the flourishing town of Collie is the centre of an industry which must rapidly develop.

As a necessary result of all these advantages the population of the State is increasing at a rate beyond all comparison with that of the less-favored provinces. In 1891 there were less than 50,000 people here. There are now about 220,000. What other country has more than quadrupled its population in that period? And the rate of increase keeps up. The people are coming here to stay. The population of Perth and suburbs probably does not at present exceed 50,000, but the time is coming, and is nearer than some of us think, when the city will be as large as Melbourne or Sydney now is, and even then with its half a million of inhabitants it will be but an infant compared with its still further growth.

In the great future of this highly-favored State what position is to be occupied by those known simply as disciples of Christ or Christians? *That will depend upon the efforts put forth now.* The experience of our brethren

in England and America is that it requires much more labor and money to establish a church in an old settlement than in a new one. In Great Britain and in the older States of America but little progress has been made compared with that in the newer central and Western States. Here the plea for primitive Christianity began almost in the beginning, was proclaimed with self-sacrificing energy, and the result commands the world's attention. The same lesson is taught in Australasia. Our plea began in N.S.W. even before it had a footing in Victoria. But in the latter State and in S.A. able evangelists from America were introduced 36 or 37 years ago, and the cause was pushed on with vigor. As a consequence the disciples in these States are proportionately far more numerous than in the mother State. In S.A. there is one disciple to every 108 people; in Victoria, one to 186; W.A., one to 200; N.Z., one to 312; Tasmania, one to 370; Queensland, one to 588, and in N.S.W., one to 685. These figures are full of significance. Every convert gained *now* becomes a power for moulding the thought of the future. Every pound wisely spent *now* will do more to influence the future of this State in the direction of New Testament Christianity than £5 or even £10 in a few years time. To incline the tree we must bend the twig. There are not wanting indications of vigorous life in the cause we love. Already, though so much later in the field, we have overtaken Tasmania and Queensland in the matter of church statistics, and we confidently hope to overhaul N.S.W. before many years; while in proportionate membership we have now left four of the States behind, and Victoria is not much ahead.

But we are only commencing, and our history lies nearly all before us. Certainly in no State of Australasia and probably in no other portion of the world is the outlook for the plea we present so bright as in the Golden West. And it is gaining ground. Two years ago but two men were wholly supported in the ministry of the Word; now there are five, and there has been a great increase of members. But the time is coming and now is for a more distinctly forward movement. We must stretch forth the curtains of our habitations, and lengthen our cords as well as strengthen our stakes. We may reasonably expect the population of the State to double within the next ten or twelve years. Is there any reason why our church membership should not quadruple? With the open doors all around us this does not, to the writer, appear an unreasonable expectation. But this means two things: first, the consecration of abilities, and second, the consecration of wealth. West Australia probably has a larger proportion of young men than the other States, and this is true of our churches. There is a vast amount of latent talent awaiting cultivation, and there are a number of inviting fields close by to be worked. How to bring this talent into active and profitable operation is a problem demanding the immediate attention of the whole brotherhood. We believe it is in the process of partial solution at least. If we are to be largely successful there must be a great increase in the number of unpaid evangelists. Then, new centres must be occupied. In

order to this we require more paid preachers in the field, and this again means more money.

Looking to the immediate future, it appears to the writer that a special effort should be made to open up at least two or three promising centres *this year*. A tent mission could be followed up by a stationed evangelist. Strategic points should be carefully selected and then tenaciously held, thus forming bases for future advances. While the mining fields are not to be neglected, the rapidly developing agricultural centres should receive specially favorable consideration. Mining towns may rise and fall, but an agricultural settlement, like the poet's brook, "goes on for ever." It may be urged that for all this more money is needed than we have at our disposal. This may be so, but we need faith rather than funds—faith in Christ, faith in the power of his gospel, faith in the people around, and faith in our own fitness for the work to which the Lord has called us. With such a faith there will be no difficulty about finance. "This is the victory that overcometh West Australia, even our faith." Let us all pray, "Lord, we believe; help thou our unbelief."

#### **Present and Prospective of W.A. Goldfields Evangelisation.**

LAWSON CAMPBELL.

The Goldfields Districts have been rightly termed the backbone of West Australian prosperity, and from these the eastern portion has proved itself to be the wealthiest—therefore the most important. Kalgoorlie, the metropolis, is a pretentious town of 30,000 people, whilst Boulder, some 3 miles distant, now almost adjoins, and Coolgardie is some 20 miles nearer the coast. Southern Cross is another 100 miles west, Kanowna 12 miles north-east, and Menzies some 80 miles due north of Kalgoorlie. These particulars are submitted in that here alone the disciples of Christ are represented, and for the further reason that it is considered possible to work these as a district. Coolgardie is the oldest, and Boulder the largest, church. The former town has been steadily declining for some years, and the church necessarily has been affected. Without a preacher for some two years, the work has been sustained by local and visiting brethren, and additions have been reported all along the period. Just now the church is experiencing a difficulty, presented through the enforced absence on Lord's days of nearly the whole of its male members. There is some talk of the lapsing of gospel meetings, but this should not be seriously entertained while brethren are willing to assist in this direction. At the local Conference held in January last a motion was carried, "That it be considered advisable to station an evangelist in Coolgardie," and the same has been forwarded for consideration in the General Conference. The local church is confident that if a man were stationed there a steady and progressive work would be done.

Boulder church has been steadily advancing for some time, and the prospects are cheering. H. J. Banks some two years ago commenced evangelistic labors in the



W. A. FOREIGN MISSION FUND TO MARCH 13th, 1903.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
Perth Church, July Collection .. ..	£8	19 9	Remitted to Victorian Treasurer .. ..	£64	14 5
" " Y.P.S.C.E. .. ..	11	0 0	Sunday School Collections to Miss Thompson for Children in India .. ..	5	11 5
" " Collected by Miss L. Rogers .. ..	3	16 4	Stamps, Stationery and Telegrams .. ..	0	6 6
" " Collected by H. P. Manning .. ..	3	19 0	Exchange on Cheques and Cost of P. O. O. .. ..	0	4 6
" " S. School Collection .. ..	1	2 3	Balance .. ..	0	1 9
<hr/>					
Fremantle Church, Collected by Miss Campbell .. ..	£7	7 5			
" " " Sunday School Collection .. ..	2	10 9			
" " " Sunday School Collection .. ..	1	17 2			
<hr/>					
Boulder Church, July Collection .. ..	11	16 0			
" " Sunday School Collection .. ..	0	15 6			
<hr/>					
Subiaco Church, Collected by Miss E. Gould .. ..	2	8 6			
" " Mr. A. Gardner .. ..	3	19 6			
" " Sunday School Collection .. ..	1	0 0			
<hr/>					
Coolgardie Church, July Collection .. ..	6	2 6			
" " Sunday School Collection .. ..	0	14 0			
<hr/>					
Kanowna Church, Collected by J. Richardson .. ..					
Leederville Church, July Collection .. ..	1	2 6			
" " Collected by Henry Berry .. ..	0	10 0			
<hr/>					
Kalgoorlie Church, Sunday School Collection .. ..					
Savings Bank Interest .. ..					
<hr/>					
		£70			18 7

Treasurer, A. GARDNER.  
Perth, March 31st, 1903.

Audited and found correct, C. E. MILLER,  
A. W. MANNING, } Auditors.

town, and the church membership has grown from 45 to 105. There are a nice Sunday School and Band of Hope affiliated, and generally speaking the church may be classed as vigorous. Bro. Scambler had just succeeded Bro. Banks in the preaching capacity, and with the church behind him should make the influence of our plea of still further prominence.

The baby church is, strangely enough, Kalgoorlie. Three years of age, she was without a preacher until June of last year. The writer at this time was sent thither as evangelist by the Home Missionary Committee, and the nett increase for the year has been about 25. The Sunday School has grown from 14 to 54, and a Dorcas Society has been formed. With these and a Mutual Improvement Class that has for its object "the advancement of members in church work and general subjects," the church is nicely equipped. The attendance of members at the Lord's table has reached 41, and the gospel meetings are again growing. The church is hampered through a late start, all the other bodies being thoroughly established.

Menzies is at present in recess, the reason given being the removal of members from the district. As there are at present some 15 members in the town, ere this the church may have reorganised.

The pluckiest church of all is Kanowna. The membership is 6, and a short time ago the writer visited them, when the whole 100% of the members were present at the Lord's table. No preaching service is held, and any balance over expenses is sent to the H.M. Committee. An attempt at expansion should soon be made by this little handful.

Southern Cross met some time ago, but the church gradually expired. Eight weeks ago the cause was revived, and now about 10 regularly assemble. It is gratifying to know that there are enquirers interested in

us there, and soon we should see a forward move made.

And what are the needs of the Fields?

1. At least another preacher to be stationed here. It is rightly thought that this would mean the partial working of at present isolated towns. Evangelists are required to be permanently stationed in Boulder and Kalgoorlie, but these with a third preacher could no doubt allot a portion of their time to expansive work. In any case the Goldfields are inadequately manned just at present.

2. Closer union of the members. It may seem a slight matter, but in a cosmopolitan population such as is here there is a great tendency to State divisions politically. This feeling of partisanship is painfully marked even in the churches, and is a rock upon which the ship of progress will founder unless eliminated. Individuals are gauged by their native State, and jealousies and bad feeling are engendered thereby. "I am of Victoria," or "I am of South Australia," is more often heard, in some cases, than "I am of Christ."

3. More publicity must be given to our plea and ourselves. There is noticeable a tendency to retire far from the point of centrality, this being very apparent in Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie. In the latter case the chapel is placed in a wretchedly-formed, dark street, and, moreover, is in an "ill-famous" neighborhood. Certainly the church has realised the disadvantage, and has made some enquiries concerning removal, but if more strenuous efforts were put forth there is no doubt that a better part, at least morally, could be secured. At present folk are diffident concerning attendance. Open-air services could also be prosecuted more vigorously, and if the members would consecrate their voices, and use them for the Lord in the street, a good hearing might be obtained.

4. There must be greater liberality finan-

cially. The average contribution per member at present is about 10d., which for the Goldfields is exceedingly meagre. Certainly for special purposes the churches are fairly willing to give, but it is rather the regular offerings which are of importance, and which are a test of normal willingness and thankfulness. Paul emphasised the "laying by in store," and after all, in the case of deficiency or of special requirement, it is the regular giver upon whom the brunt falls. *Systematic* giving should be prominent on the Fields. Let these receive attention, and instead of numbering some 250, or 1 in every 200 of the population, the Goldfields churches should soon comprise at least 1250 members, or 1 in every 50.

To West Australian Readers.

The Home Missionary Committee of the churches in W.A. has decided to recommend to Conference the employment of one or two brethren to devote their whole time to tent or other special mission work throughout the incoming Conference year. The estimated expense is £550, and in order to ensure the raising of the required sum the Committee authorised me to make an appeal to the brotherhood in this State. I desire to get promises to the extent of £200 at least before Conference assembles on June 8th. At Bro. Scambler's welcome meeting in Perth chapel on May 7th, about £39 was promised in a few minutes, and in less than 48 hours from the time the Committee carried the resolution authorising the appeal 35 names were on the promise list and the promises aggregated £46/18/-.

I have sent letters to all the churches in the State, but there are many scattered disciples who doubtless would like to help in this matter. If so, please send on to me a

statement of the amount you are prepared to contribute for this work during the incoming year; such promises to be redeemed prior to Easter, 1904.

This work would mean the consolidation of existing churches and the establishment of new ones. It should appeal to all. So that almost if not all can help, promises as low as 1/- will be gladly received. Let all respond; let the response be as liberal as possible. Now is the time to firmly establish primitive Christianity in this State; will not all of the 1100 disciples in the State help to do it?

If brethren not resident in this State feel interested in the work and desire to help, let me just say to such, "Your promise will not be despised, nor your offering refused."

Brethren who intend to act, please do so promptly, as Conference is nigh at hand. The King's business requires haste.

Yours in the old paths,  
"Virginia," THOS. HAGGER.  
Hampton-rd.,  
Beaconsfield, Fremantle, W.A.

## From The Field.

The field is the world. Matt. 13: 38.

### New Zealand.

MATAURA.—Grand meeting last night, when Bro. Smith delivered a telling address, at the close of which two young ladies came forward and publicly confessed their Lord and Master. Bro. Smith also had a good meeting for breaking of bread yesterday morning in the neighboring town of Gore, when nine persons assembled around the table to commemorate their Lord. The prospects for the establishment of a live church seem bright in that important business centre.

May 11. T. PRYDE.

SOUTH DUNEDIN.—At the close of our gospel meeting to-night two decided to follow Christ. May the Lord keep them faithful.

T.H.M.

MORNINGTON.—Yesterday T. M. Turner delivered an anniversary gospel address. As the close one young girl made the good confession. The tea meeting is to be held next Friday evening.

May 18. M.G.

WELLINGTON SOUTH.—This morning we had the pleasure of receiving three young people into our fellowship. They were all baptised by Bro. Turner at the conclusion of the prayer meeting on Tuesday night. This is another testimony of the work of the Sunday School, as all three are regular scholars. We also received a young man by letter from Auckland.

Last Friday being the twenty-fifth anniversary of Bro. Turner's wedding, the opportunity was taken by the members of the church to present them with a small memento of their silver wedding.

May 10. S. McIVER.

### South Australia.

STRATHALBYN.—Warren Cosh was with us on May 10. We much appreciated our brother's visit. Good meetings Lord's day, May 17; several Milang brethren present; L. H. Crosby preaching; one addition.

HENLEY BEACH.—At the close of an address by E. R. Manning this evening, a third son of J. Stanford

made the noble confession. We pray that he may be kept faithful in the State (W.A.) to which he is going.

May 17. G.A.H.

### New South Wales.

PETERSHAM.—Fine crowd at gospel meeting last Lord's day. Bro. Illingworth addressed the gathering on "Cleaving unto the Lord," with telling effect, and it was cheering indeed to hear the confessions of seven of faith and obedience in Christ, the Son of the living God. During the day also 3 were received into fellowship.

May 18. C. J. L.

### Tasmania.

SULPHUR CREEK.—We had the pleasure last Lord's day of witnessing a promising young man put on Christ, and who also received the right hand of fellowship. We hope soon to report others who are seeking the kingdom.

May 18. A. R. TAYLOR.

### West Australia.

FREMANTLE.—Splendid gatherings at all the services. One confession on Lord's day, May 9th. Bro. Hagger has organised a Y.P.S.C.E., and is arranging for an open-air corp of workers. We hope to report much profitable labor for the Master in this district. Bro. Pallott (our school superintendent) has arrived safely from his visit to Victoria.

May 18. A.L.

LEEDERVILLE.—We held our anniversary on 3rd inst., when we had a fine address from Bro. Hagger. Reported increase for the year, 6 by letter and 3 by faith and obedience; present membership, 21. We want a building very much; when that is obtained we shall progress very rapidly, but people do not like to come to a private house. We have to acknowledge the receipt of 12/- to our building fund from Sister Rogers, per Sister Butcher. We want £100.

May 19. H. BERRY.

## Here and There.

Here a little and there a little.—Isaiah 28: 10.

:o:

Some interesting Sunday School matter will be found on page 313.

Temperance Competitions, Group 2 and Bendigo. See Coming Events.

We have received a letter from F. Pittman, which will appear next week.

Two were received into fellowship at Queenstown, S.A., last Sunday week.

A lot of interesting matter has been crowded out of this issue of the CHRISTIAN.

We call attention to the list of American books in another column. These books are now in stock.

West Australian visitors to the Conference on June 8th are requested to take this number of the CHRISTIAN with them.

At the close of C. L. Thurgood's address on Sunday night last at North Fitzroy, 6 were baptised and 12 others made the good confession.

In 1897 there were but 169 members of the church in Western Australia; now there are 967, an increase of 798. Of this number 150 came in from the Bible School.

A. J. Saunders writes:—"Good meetings at Berwick last Lord's day, although a wet day. One confession at night, a promising young man. Jubilee mission commences on June 7th."

A while back some brother borrowed a magic lantern from this office. As we are desirous of using it, we should be much obliged to the said party for the return of the lantern.

At Barker's Creek last Sunday night week two from the Sunday School, children of Bro. Gartside, expressed the desire to become followers of Jesus. May God bless the lambs of the flock.

A. F. TURNER says:—"The Jubilee Pictorial History books have all arrived safely, and every subscriber seems delighted with his copy. I do not see how anyone could be other than pleased and satisfied with it. From beginning to finish it is splendid."

J. Bauer, one of the young men from Barker's Creek, spoke on Sunday morning to the church at Castlemaine, and at night preached the gospel in a most acceptable manner. It was his first gospel sermon. We need more young men to tell the "old, old story."

G. H. Browne, who for so many years has been employed as an evangelist by the Victorian Committee, has resigned his position, to take effect at end of July, when he will be open to engagement in some other field. Letters addressed to him at Geelong will receive attention.

We are requested to announce that Sister Macallister (widow of the late D. M. Macallister) has several vacancies for boarders at her residence, 111 Rathdown-st., Carlton. Any visitors or local residents requiring a comfortable home can find the same with Sister Macallister, at reasonable charges.

D. C. McCallum says in a private letter: "J. W. McGarvey continues to do a great amount of work in spite of his years. Last week he delivered six lectures, each three hours in length, in Kansas. He delivered all these and travelled to and from Kansas in seven days." Prof. McGarvey is now 75 years of age.

The CHRISTIAN of June 11th will be a Foreign Mission Number, and extra copies for distribution to new subscribers will be sent to all our agents; will they see that these are carefully placed?

Since the Jubilee Conference the meetings at Lygon-st. have increased in numbers and spirit. Large audiences gather to hear the gospel preached, and eight have been added from the unbelievers since last report. The collection for the Rescue Home amounted to £9/5/6. All other work is in a flourishing condition.

The first lecture in connection with the College of the Bible was delivered to a good audience on Thursday night last at Lygon-st. chapel by F. G. Dunn on "Biblical Criticism." Bro. Dunn handled his subject freely and well. The Bible students were greatly pleased, and are looking forward to the next one with interest.

J. Scott, of Broadford, Victoria, sends us 20/- for the Seed Wheat Fund, and says: "I was glad to see that the money was advanced in reliance on the brotherhood to make it good, which I think they will not fail to do, as it is much better than giving to outside funds indiscriminately." We have also received 4/- from "Seed Wheat," and 20/- from D. A. Lewis.

Our churches are now using more tracts and other literature than ever before. Besides dozens of smaller orders, we have sent out during the past two weeks two orders of 2000 four-page tracts, one of 3500, and one of 6000. At the great mission now going on in Prahran thousands of our tracts have been distributed.

With six confessions on Sunday night the Prahran tent mission entered its sixth and closing week. The interest continues unabated, and great efforts are being made to make the last services the most successful. The number of decisions to date is 78. A consecration meeting will be held on Sunday next in the tent, and a thanksgiving service next Tuesday.

The Anniversary of the Prahran Sunday School will be celebrated on the 7th and 8th June. On Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock, F. M. Ludbrook will deliver his address, "Puffing Billy," to the scholars. On Monday at 7.30 p.m., the Public Demonstration and Distribution of Prizes will take place. All have a most cordial invitation to be present at these services.

The reader who asked about the brother going out after the breaking of bread because they did not have the open platform is not satisfied with our answer, and says: "I thought you would answer it from the Scripture," which very thing we would have done, only we did not happen to remember any Scripture on the subject and had to fall back on our common sense. This same brother asks another question, but as he wants Scripture and we don't know any, we will just have to let it go.

The brethren in England are anxious to get the names and addresses of all members of the church in South Africa, as a preacher is now on his way to that country and is desirous of knowing the whereabouts of all the disciples there. Will secretaries of churches in Australasia and others knowing of members of the church in South Africa send names and full addresses to Mrs. Lee, c/o J. Pittman, Airlie-av., Armadale, Victoria, or direct to G. Saxby, Pepper-st., Cape Town, South Africa.

Forty-two teachers and officers have enrolled in the normal class conducted by Jas. Johnston in the University High School on Monday nights at 8 o'clock. Great interest is being manifested, and it is hoped that many more may avail themselves of this excellent opportunity to more fully equip themselves for Sunday School work. Those intending to enter should do so next Monday without fail. The tuition is 2/6 per term of 20 weeks, and you are to provide yourself with a note book and pencil. Sunday School workers, rally to the front.

The Australian Students in the College of the Bible, Lexington, have formed an "Australian Club," the members being C. M. Gordon, D. C. McCallum, Wm. Phillips, A. G. Day, H. E. J. Kingsbury, with Chas. A. Musselman as American representative. They recently gave an entertainment in the College Hall of which we have been favored with a programme. The following are some of the items: C. M. Gordon, recitation, "Scot of Harden"; H. E. J. Kingsbury, recitation, "How McDougal Topped the Score"; Wm. Phillips, recitation, "The Roman Sentinel"; Debate,—Resolved, "It is advisable that ministerial Students from Australia should attend Kentucky University." Affirmative, C. M. Gordon; Negative, D. C. McCallum. Wm. Phillips, A. G. Day and H. E. J. Kingsbury gave, "A Little Farm Well Tilled," and A. G. Day closed up with "The Kangaroo." With the aid of a few musical items by some charming young ladies, and Mark Collis as chairman, they no doubt had a great time.

### Coming Events.

Observe the time of their coming.—Jeremiah 8:7.

**MAY 31 & JUNE 2.**—Ascot Vale Sunday School Anniversary Services, Sunday Afternoon and Evening, May 31st. Andrew Meldrum at 3. Children's Demonstration and Distribution of Prizes, Tuesday Evening, June 2nd. Admission, Tuesday Evening only, Silver Coin. Gross proceeds to be handed to the Essendon Ladies' Benevolent Society.

**MAY 31 & JUNE 3.**—FOOTSCRAY SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY on Sunday, May 31st. Afternoon at 3, F. M. Ludbrook, and on Wednesday Evening, June 3rd. Singing, Recitation and Dialogue by the Scholars.

**JUNE 2.**—Temperance Competitions. Intending Competitors from schools in Group 2, and Bendigo, must send their entries and entrance fees to Mr. Jos. Pittman, 20 Airlie-av., Armadale, on or before Tuesday, June 2nd, 1903. THOS GOLE, Hon. Sec.

**JUNE 3.**—Grand United Rally of the churches of Christ Societies will be held in Swanston-st. Chapel on Wednesday, June 3rd, at 7.45 p.m. Bren. Meldrum and Greenwood will give addresses. Responses. Rally up, Endeavorers. G. S. BENNETT, Sec.

**JUNE 4.**—College of the Bible. Ernest W. Pittman, State Singing Evangelist, will give the Introductory Lecture of the Music Course on Thursday Evening, June 4th, at 8.30, in the Lygon-st. Christian Chapel. All musical people specially invited to listen to some interesting experiments.

**JULY 5 & 7.**—North Melbourne Sunday School anniversary will be held on Sunday and Tuesday, July 5th and 7th, being postponed from usual date on account of mission, etc.

**JUNE 21 & 22.**—Swanston-st. Lord's day school will hold its Anniversary Services on above dates. June 21st, afternoon and evening, Special Addresses. Monday, June 22nd, at 7.45, Demonstration by the scholars.

### WANTED.

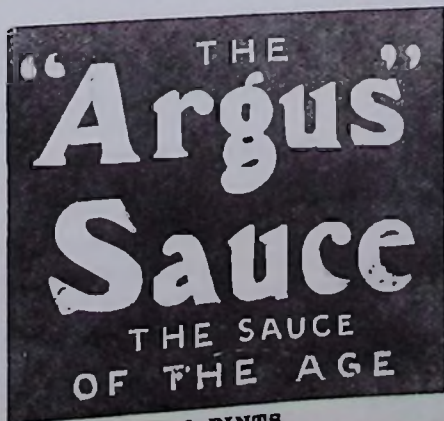
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## Obituary.

To live is Christ: and to die is gain.—Phil. 1: 21.

**CRUICKSHANKS.**—After a long and painful illness, our Sister Cruickshanks has been called away from this lower world. She had been for many years a member of the church at Maryborough, although for some time unable to take any active part in the work. She gladly accepted release from this mortal body, and departed with full confidence in the love of the Eternal Father. Her aged mother and her family feel her loss acutely, but look forward to meeting her in that land where partings are unknown.  
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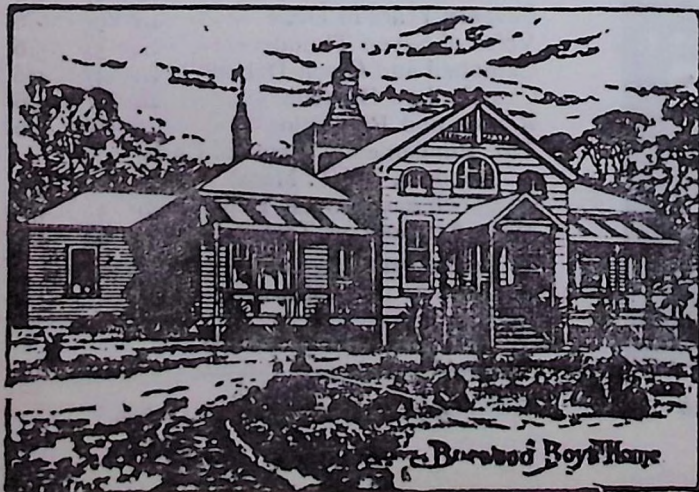
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EXAMINATION PASSES, 1903.

**1st DIVISION, under 10.**—First prize, Victor Way, Lismore School, 98 marks; Second prize, Myrtle Stimson, Canley Vale, 95. Certificates—Lily Bryant, Enmore; Willie Roberts, Sydney; Percy H. Morton, Petersham; Winnie Steer, Enmore.

**2nd DIVISION, 10 and under 12.**—First prize, Albert Chandler, Enmore, 90 marks; Second prize, Cecil Hall, Sydney, 89; Third prize, Chas. F. Morton, Petersham, 88. Certificates—Evelyn Arnott, Petersham; Ruby Eldridge, Petersham; Ethel Ewing, Petersham; Kittie Morris, Sydney; Muriel Morris, Sydney; Ellie Winks, Canley Vale; Ida Powditch, Enmore; Frank Morton, Rookwood; Arthur Roberts, Sydney.

**3rd DIVISION, 12 and under.**—First prize, May Owen, Petersham, 96 marks; Second prize, Hilda Tindall, Petersham, 93; Third prize, Elsie Andrews, Enmore, 92; Fourth prizes, Lily James, Petersham, and Connie Foster, Sydney, 91. Certificates—Annie Hall, Sydney; Violet Waring, Enmore; Winnie Farr, Enmore; Lily Taylor, Enmore; Jennie Rofe, Enmore; Winnie Owen, Petersham; Charles Reid, Enmore; Mabel Morton, Enmore; Essie Davis, Enmore; Minnie Stimson, Canley Vale; Hilda Way, Lismore; Florrie Lambert, Sydney; Alfred Morton, Enmore; Lily Andrews, Enmore; G. Morton, Petersham; Montrose McCoughtry, Enmore; Ethel Sattler, Petersham; Jane McLellan, Enmore; Lucy Taylor, Petersham; Annie Alberthsen, Enmore; Edgar Button, Enmore; Vera Martin, Petersham; Hilda Pickering, Enmore; Eva Steer, Enmore; Ruth Priestly, Enmore; Alma Morton, Rookwood.

**4th DIVISION, 15 to 18 years.**—First prize, Ethel Eastwood, Enmore, 100 marks (Maximum); Second prize, Gordon Stimson, Sydney, 97; Third prizes, Muriel Marwell, Enmore, Gertie Morton, Enmore, Grace Gowan, Enmore, and Daisy Barratt, Enmore, 95; Fourth prizes, William Gale, Enmore, and Alberta Evans, Enmore, 92. Certificates—Fred Shorter, Enmore; Jessie Payne, Petersham; Millie Tindall, Petersham; Louis Baker, Sydney; Edwin Andrews, Enmore; Harold Rofe, Enmore; Elsie Rootes, Petersham; Rosetta Payne, Petersham; Frank Edwards, Sydney; Nellie Heptonstall, Enmore; Marjorie Christopherson, Canley Vale; Elsie Dixon, Sydney; Oscar Foster, Sydney; William Davis, Lismore; Alice Caines, Lismore; Ruth Greenhalgh, Lismore; Emily Organ, Enmore; Maud Bostock, Lismore; Ida Pearce, Petersham.

**5th DIVISION, over 18.**—First prizes, Tessie Edwards, Enmore, and Grace McCoughtry, Enmore, 100 marks (Maximum); Second prizes, Minnie Pike, Petersham, 95, and Fitzroy Barratt, Enmore, 94; Third prize, Walter Cousins, Petersham, 92. Certificates—Elizabeth James, Petersham; Mary Lorimer, Enmore; Lizzie Barber, Enmore; Bert Smith, Enmore; Clara Spencer, Enmore; Hannah Alberthsen, Enmore.

**Summary.**—167 entries; 129 appeared; 89 certificates; 42 failed.

**Respective School Results.**—Enmore, 70 entries, 49 appeared, 41 certificates, 12 prizes, 8 failed; Petersham, 39 entries, 23 appeared, 21 certificates, 6 prizes, 2 failed; Sydney, 30 entries, 20 appeared, 13 certificates, 3 prizes, 7 failed; Rookwood, 14 entries, 5 appeared, 2 certificates, 3 failed; Lismore, 23 entries, 10 appeared, 6 certificates, 1 prize, 4 failed; Canley Vale, 23 entries, 14 appeared, 4 certificates, 1 prize, 10 failed; One School, 8 entries, 7 appeared, 7 failed.

R. STEER, SECRETARY.

**Sunday School Union, Vic.**

ANNUAL REPORT (abridged).

That part of the report referred to in the Jubilee Conference number has been omitted.

The 22nd annual meeting of the Sunday School Union was held at Lygon-street chapel, on Monday evening, May 4th, Bro. Martin presiding.

Having, in the bountiful providence of God, come to the close of another year's work, it behoves us to offer to him our heartfelt thanks for all he has enabled us to accomplish, and the blessing he has been pleased to bestow upon our efforts.

During the year we have had an addition of 5 schools, making a total of 34 now on our roll. The total number of teachers in these schools is 429, and of scholars 5097, showing an increase for the year of 79 teachers and 1021 scholars. During the same period 398 of our scholars were admitted into fellowship with the church by confession of their faith and baptism, while, although all the schools did not send in the returns asked for, we find that there are 835 immersed believers among the scholars of our schools that did so. It will thus be seen that of the additions to the church by faith and baptism from all sources throughout the State, as shewn by the Conference returns, 33%, or nearly one-third of the whole, have come from our schools—the best plea that we can urge for the churches giving more systematic and substantial aid to their schools.

The largest school is North Fitzroy, with 388 scholars on the roll, the next in order being Lygon-street, 345; North Richmond, 325; and Bendigo, 300. The average attendance of our 429 teachers has been 365 each Lord's day—an average of 85%; of our scholars, 74%, or nearly three-fourths of the total number on the school registers.

Of the schools having 300 scholars and upwards, North Richmond shows the best average attendance with 83%; of those having between 200 and 300, Brunswick is first with 76%; while Footscray leads those between 100 and 200, with 88%, a position it held last year with 83%; of those schools below 100, Swanston-street is at the head with 93%.

With regard to the school auxiliaries, there are 17 Societies of Young People's Christian Endeavor, an increase of 9, and 16 Bands of Hope, an increase of 8. The Mutual Improvement Societies remain as before at 7. Two of our schools have Girls' Clubs connected with them, and one a Mission Band. All these we consider show an increased vitality in our schools, which we trust we shall see still further developed during the year upon which we are entering.

Relieved of his duties as President of the Conference, we are thankful to say that Jas. Johnston has now undertaken to conduct the Normal School under the auspices of the Union. A copy of the syllabus for the course has been issued to every teacher and school officer, and it is therefore unnecessary to enlarge upon the scheme here. We can only hope that Bro. Johnston will be well supported by those for whose benefit work has been instituted by their placing themselves under the tuition of so capable and experienced a teacher, thus ensuring a

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greater degree of efficiency in the conduct of their classes and schools. The number enrolled to date is about 46.

On much the same lines as those indicated by Bro. Thurgood in his paper on "Advanced Methods in Bible School Work," rallies were conducted by three of our schools during the first quarter of the current year, and resulted in the following total additions to the schools interested:—North Melbourne, 158; Fitzroy, 154; Lygon-street, 135. Similar efforts are now being made by Bendigo, South Yarra, Collingwood, and North Fitzroy. The finances of the Union are in a satisfactory condition; starting the year with £4/11/- in hand, our receipts have been £33/9/10, and expenses £34/7/5, showing a balance in hand of £3/13/5.

We cannot close without paying a tribute of respect to the memory of our late Bro. C. G. Lawson. Associated with our Union since its very initiation, he held the office of Vice-President during 1885-86, President during the following year, and Treasurer from 1888 to 1894. He also frequently assisted in the visitation and inspection of our schools. To these he stood in an unique position, as, in conjunction with our late Bro. Ferrier, he opened the first of our Sunday Schools in this State in the Mechanics' Hall, Collins-street, in 1857. In 1861 he started another school in Barkly-street, Carlton, which in 1865 was taken to the new chapel. The Lygon-street school was thus established, and Bro. Lawson was its first Superintendent. By his departure, the Union has lost a kind and valued friend and sympathiser.

At the election of office-bearers for the opening year the following were appointed:—President, C. W. Mitchell; Vice-President, W. Brown; Treasurer, F. W. Martin; Secretary, L. Gole; Asst. Secretary, P. Tunbridge.

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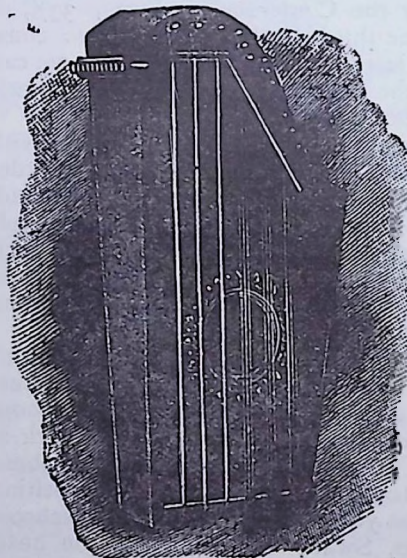
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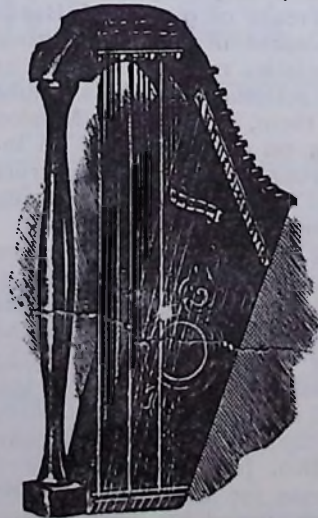
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
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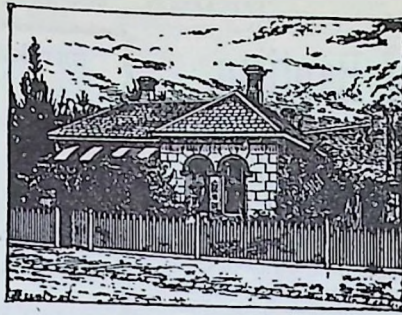
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