

# The Australian Christian

National Weekly Representing Churches of Christ

## "If We Had Known"



*If we had known that the pathway rough,  
Whose end we tried to see,  
Had a hidden turning close at hand  
From toil and peril free;  
With joys as sweet as this earth may own;  
Would we have murmured, if we had known?*

*If we had known that the lesson hard,  
We coned with aching brow,  
Unlocked the gate to fields of thought  
Whose key we carry now;  
And the gain is worth all the toil we own:  
Would we have worried, if we had known?*

*If we had known that the barren soil,  
We tried so hard to break,  
Would soften beneath the showers of love,  
And ground prepared would make;  
That we should reap from the seed then sown:  
Would we have fainted, if we had known?*

*If we had known that the cross we bore  
Was studded with points of light  
We had but to carry it 'neath the rays  
Of God's own sunshine bright;  
But we hid it away in the dark alone:  
Should we have done so, if we had known?*

*Ah, we may not know, e'en the passing hour  
A Father's love doth hide:  
That we may trust him in shine and shade  
And safe in his care abide;  
Live looking up for each day alone:  
Then we never need sigh, "If we had known."*

—Selected





# The Church's Judgment on World Problems

## GERMANY

### Church on Jewish Question

SYNOD of the Evangelical Church in Germany, meeting in Berlin from April 23-27, issued the following message regarding the Jewish question:

"For God hath concluded them all in unbelief, that he might have mercy upon all" (Romans 11: 32).

"We believe in the Lord and Saviour, who when he took the form of a man was descended from the race of Israel. We confess the church that is made up of Christians, Jew and Gentile, together in one body, and whose peace is Christ Jesus. We believe that the promise of God to the race of Israel remained binding even after the crucifixion of Christ. We freely avow that by negligence and silence we became accessory before the God of mercy to the crime committed against the Jews by men of our nation. We warn all Christians to reckon up what has come upon us Germans, as the judgment of God, against what we did to the Jews, for in judgment the grace of God seeks the repentant sinner.

"We entreat all Christians to abjure anti-Semitism of every kind, and to offer a firm resistance wherever it is again raising its head, and to meet Jews and Jewish Christians in a spirit of brotherhood.

"We ask Christian parishes to take under their protection any Jewish graveyards in their area which may be lying uncared-for. We beseech the God of mercy to hasten the day of perfectness, when we shall with a redeemed Israel glorify the victory of Jesus Christ."



## CHINA

### Important Undertaking

FOLLOWING a report in the National Christian Council News of February-March, 1950, by far the most important undertaking now definitely under way is the convening of a National Christian Conference, to be held in Peking in August. At the January executive committee meeting the National Christian Council definitely took responsibility for sponsoring this vitally important conference, which will be reminiscent of the National Conference in 1922 out of which the N.C.C. itself was born.

A preparatory committee was set up on as broad a basis as possible, 32 members being then appointed, with the intention of increasing membership to a total of 51; this committee will work through its own standing committee, 9 members of which were nominated out of 15.

The August conference is planned to be very fully representative of the whole Christian movement in China, including its impressionality. Although it will not in itself be a legislative body, there is already a deep desire that many executive actions of profound importance may consequently be taken by the various administrative organs concerned. The history of the past 28 years of the Christian cause in China will be thoroughly examined, and the proposal has been made that a Chinese Laymen's Commission of Inquiry be appointed by the conference to "re-think" the Christian movement in China to-day. A thorough-going movement of Christian reform will be under study these months, and will almost certainly be launched at this conference. It is also hoped to reach agreement on various common principles for the future life and work of the churches, and all possible will be done to strengthen co-operation and movements towards unity among the churches.

The question will be discussed of the need of a central body with executive power for all the churches in matters agreed upon, and hence also questions of revision of the constitution, and reorganisation of the National Christian Council.

It is agreed that the next N.C.C. biennial meeting shall be called following upon the holding of this national conference, so as to take constitutional action upon recommendations which the conference puts forward.



## HUNGARY

### Deposition of Bishop

THE cable sent by Bishop Anders Nygren and Dr. S. C. Michelfelder, president and executive secretary respectively of the Lutheran World Federation, to the inspector-general of the Lutheran church in Hungary, Dr. Ivan Reok, requesting details concerning the removal from office of Bishop Lajos Ordass by special ecclesiastical trial and decree, has resulted in Dr. Reok giving an "official explanation."

This document begins by giving the composition of the ecclesiastical court. It goes on to call attention to the text of the sentence passed on Bishop Ordass by the Usury Court of Budapest in October, 1948, and states that "the grave situation due to the sentence passed by the Usury Court against Lajos Ordass prejudices the interest of the church, for which reason it sentences him to deposition from his office of diocese bishop. . . ."

Dr. Michelfelder, in a leading article entitled "Was It Justice or Expediency in Hungary?" in the News Bulletin of the Lutheran World Federation, gives his views as follows: "The fact is that this judgment of a church court was based on expediency. . . . It was not convenient nor expedient for the Lutheran church officials to have a bishop in prison so they deposed him. . . . Summing up, he concludes, 'The executive secretary of the Lutheran World Federation is expressing a personal opinion of confidence in the integrity and innocence of Bishop Ordass. On two occasions the executive committee of the L.W.F. has done the same. Many other religious bodies have done so also. All the available facts of the case will be laid before the executive committee of the L.W.F. in August. Bishop Lajos Ordass is still the vice-president of the Lutheran World Federation, and I am convinced he will so remain.'"



## GERMANY

### Evangelical Church on Peace

AMONG the most important products of the deliberations carried on in Berlin from April 23-27 by the Evangelical church in Germany (EKD), is a message issued by the Synod on the question: "What can the Church Do for Peace?" We quote the following important passage from the message on peace:

"Our Lord Jesus Christ tells us, 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.' As men that believe in God's covenant of peace with the world, we know that we are called on to seek peace with all men, and to work together for the peace of the nations with all that truly desire it.

"We therefore entreat all those who belong to our people, as we did in our message from Eisenach in 1948: Keep away from the spirit of hatred and enmity. Do not allow yourselves to be made tools of a propaganda that fosters hostility between peoples and prepares the way for war, or even of a peace propaganda that in truth only sows hatred and cultivates strife. Do not fall prey to the delusion that our suffering can be repaired by another war.

"We call on all those who belong to our people in West and in East: Urge everyone in a position of political responsibility, vigorously

and tirelessly, to withhold approval from a war in which Germans would be fighting against Germans. We put it to every individual conscience to weigh up whether he would take up arms in the case of such a war.

"We appeal to the governments of our people: Respect the law sent and enforced by God in your own laws also. Exercise justice. There is no peace without justice. There is no justice without recognition of God's law for man. God is the Lord. He alone wields authority over the life and the whole being of man. Only if the State respects this sacred law of God does it preserve the dignity and freedom of man.

"One of its principles is that no man shall be deprived of his liberty without being brought to equitable trial. Another, that no use shall be made of coercion or terrorism in matters of faith and conscience, that no man shall be persecuted or set at a disadvantage by reason of his beliefs, his views or his race; that no man shall be constrained into dealings counter to his conscience. We urge the governments of our people not to infringe this sacred right held by man as the creation of God. Such infringement destroys all order and the peace of the people.

"We entreat all those who bear responsibility to work with every means at their command for social justice, to help the oppressed and the underprivileged, the homeless, the bombed-out and the war victims to obtain their rights, and to grant them space in which to live.

"We adjure the governments and representative bodies of our people not to allow any means in the world to drive them into the delusion that a war could bring a solution and a turning-point to our troubles. In gratitude and hope we welcome the fact that certain governments are obliged by their constitutions to protect the man who refuses to serve in war for the sake of his conscience. We ask all the governments of the world to guarantee such protection. Whoever refuses war service on grounds of conscience may be sure of the advocacy and intercession of the church.

"We appeal to the 'Powers' by whom our country is occupied, and all those in authority whom it may concern: Set them free now at last, the prisoners, the displaced and the internees who fell into your hands through the war. Show mercy to all whom you have in your power. Put an end to it now at last, this war that has broken the nations, by just treaties of peace. Give it up now at last, that zoning-off of East and West which is rending our people apart and imperilling the peace of the world. Let the German people have the chance to make themselves a new system in freedom, and to attain once more to unity between East and West. See that State frontiers are no longer walls between national and ideological spheres of power.

"We address this message to governments all over the world, asking them to join together in a new fellowship in which peace shall be sought and guarded with every means conceivable to man. The price which each nation may have to pay in such a fellowship may be high, but it cannot be too high if the peace of the world is won and maintained thereby.

"We ask all the churches of the world to take up their stand with us in this appeal to the nations, and to be steadfast in pressing it upon the attention of their governments. 'What can the church do for peace?' The hand of God is still stretched over us in wrath, and where he has no mercy all our efforts are vain. But he is a God of peace, and has promised us his grace. And therefore we must pray on for peace. We ask Christians all over the world to join in our prayer. We call on the Evangelical churches in Germany to pray regularly in their services for the peace of the world, to unite on stated days in joint supplication for peace, and in such intercession to include above all those governments upon whom rests special responsibility for war and peace."

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# No Unity Without Love

**T**HERE is no place in the church for bitterness, hate or division. They are foreign to the nature of the church. They are brought in by those who lack the spirit of Christ. If we look for the origin of bitterness and division within the church, we find it in human pride and in the love for power. People are so anxious to get their own way and to enforce their will upon others, they are tempted to say and to do what is contrary to the way of life shown in Christ.

The people Jesus condemned openly were those who were so sure they were right and others were wrong that they spoke harshly of them. Only the Lord has the full right to judge. Jesus assumed that privilege because of his Lordship. Men have no right to take upon themselves a function that belongs to God. The word of the Master is clear, "Judge not." When we begin to judge, then we show our own weak natures and leave ourselves open to judgment. To those who would have judged the woman taken in sin, Jesus said in effect, "If you are free from sin like God, then go ahead and cast the stone." If we are to take up the role of a judge, then we must be very sure of our own perfection. We must make ourselves equal with God. We must claim to know all the circumstances and motives that are behind the actions of the persons we condemn. How vain and puffed up we become when we make ourselves judges of our fellows.

Yet Jesus did not tolerate sin. He is not asking his followers to shut their eyes to evil deeds. What he did show men was the way to overcome evil with good. His method of destroying sin in the community was by raising the whole tone of society to such a high level that evil could not reside there. Evil is not defeated by condemnation or prohibition, but by sacrificial service of devout people who are ready to become the "salt" of society.

Even in his final hour on the cross, when men shouted bitter criticism at him, the Master never became critical. Then he cried, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." His victory over sin was gained, not by denouncing evil, but by a noble deed of self-sacrifice. He met evil with good.

Gospel preaching is summed up in the words of Jesus: "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Here we find love expressed for sinners. There is no word of criticism. The Lord is seeking to win men by love. While others condemned Zacchaeus, Jesus went into his home and expressed a rich love for him. He overcame evil by good. He won a sinner by love. His preaching was not in words only, but in deeds also, in which he expressed sympathy for the lonely, sad and troubled people of this world.

**I**F love is the weapon Jesus used to win men into the harmonious fellowship of the church, what other instrument could be used to maintain unity within the church herself? Perhaps we ought to express ourselves another way. If men have found the love of Christ and enjoy belief in him as Lord and Saviour, can the appeal to them to maintain the unity of the Spirit be by sectarian pride or Christian love? If we appeal to the pagan in love, should we not, with greater intensity, make our plea to all who wear the name of Christ, in love. To come down to an example: why should Protestants be bitter toward Roman Catholics and why ought Roman Catholics be bitter toward Protestants? If we are filled with the love of Christ, can we tolerate sectarian hatred? Fire and water cannot be mixed; neither can love and hatred. The differences dividing Roman Catholics and Protestants are real, but these will not be overcome unless there is first developed an atmosphere of good will in which differences may be found in love.

## EDITORIAL

**B**ETWEEN various Protestant groups there are differences of views. Is that sufficient reason to warrant followers of Christ giving expression to sectarian pride and demonstrating an attitude of intolerance that Christ would not take up, even toward pagans? If we are to love the pagans, how much more should we love those who rejoice in wearing the name of Christ and delight to be called Christians. To span the barriers that divide various groups, only love can be used successfully. Often the people of God look at one another across denominational gulfs that divide, and misjudge one another. One group takes up the right to judge another, assuming the function that belongs only to God. Motives are often falsely attributed to this group and that. Often our pride in the group to which we belong makes us blind to the truth, and makes us harsh toward those who differ from us. While this attitude may prosper some sections of the church for a time, the church as a whole suffers, and Christ's world ministry is hindered. If love is the first essential in the gospel, why is it not fundamental in our plea for unity within the church?

Among members of a brotherhood of Christians who seek to establish the ideals of the New Testament, and thus plead for Christian unity, should bitterness, criticism, suspicion and questioning of motives take the place of Christian love? Christ condemned the self-righteous attitude of the Pharisees. Paul showed up the errors of those who had lost the spirit of Christian love, and had crept into the church to divide it by Judaistic legalism.

We are sure there are ideals that must be kept. We are not suggesting there can be Christian unity on no definite basis. The fundamentals for unity are revealed in the Christ of the New Testament. But we urge that these can be advanced and made clear to others only if, first, and foremost, love moves our heart. Love, not pride or self-righteousness, must be the motive that urges us to seek the unity of God's people. Unless we practise that love, we do not know the gospel; we do not know Christ; how then can we be apostles of Christian unity if we lack love? Love is kind. Love is not suspicious. Love lacks envy. Love does not seek her own end. Love is humble. Love delights to unite, not to divide. Love does not belittle another. Love will not judge another unkindly. Only in such love will the gospel extend, the church grow and Christians be united in one fellowship.



## A NATIONAL CAPITAL CHURCH

**T**HE National City Christian Church, at Washington, D.C., is on one of the central sites of the American capital. A beautiful building was erected there by 1930. That property is now worth more than a million dollars.

At first it was thought the huge debt, accepted then as an American brotherhood responsibility, would be paid within a few years. However, the depression years cut off the supply of money, and it was thought the property would be lost to the brotherhood. In 1933 the debt was 640,000 dollars. Then Dr. R. H. Miller became the minister. By 1941, in difficult years, he helped to reduce the debt to 300,000 dollars. In 1942 Dr. J. Warren Hastings became the preacher. His leadership has been effective. He has maintained large congregations, and has seen 1695 additions to the church. One of his tasks was to reduce the building debt. Last April the church held a service to mark the clearing of the debt, and the burning of the "mortgage."

This building in the heart of Washington is an effective city. It is estimated that more than 12,000 visitors, from all parts of the world, worship there in the period of a year.



# Brotherhood Publishing House

W. R. Hibburt, newly appointed manager of The Austral Printing and Publishing Co., reviews the history and aims of the company.

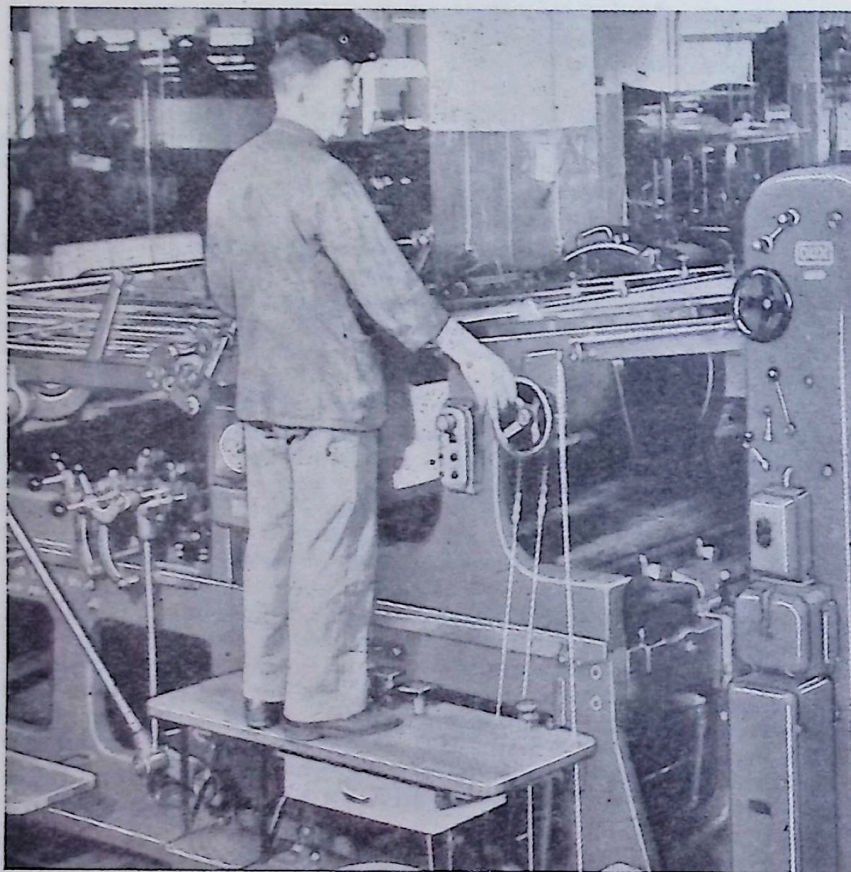
CHRISTIAN literature is a constructive force in building the kingdom of God. It was this fact that brought The Austral Printing and Publishing Company—the publishing house of churches of Christ—into being under the inspiration of its founder, A. B. Maston.

The printed word has a permanency, whereas the spoken word is liable to be forgotten. It may be sent as a herald or a teacher to distant places and even find an entrance into private precincts where the individual would have no right of entrance. Despite the screen

mittee, or State. In policy it aims to set forth principles and not private views. Since even the best friends of the company have only a vague idea of the variety and extent of the company's work, an attempt is made to summarise it.

## Stream of Life

A constant stream of literature issues from its presses. In most instances the literature contributes to the ongoing of the work of the Christian church. In addition to servicing



Sectional view of the new Grafiska Maskin Aktiebolaget Swedish high speed two revolution press fitted with automatic feeder and delivery. It is 25 feet in length and has a maximum delivery of 3000 impressions per hour.

and the radio, the printed page is still the universal medium for transmitting information to the mind. A battle of ideas is raging at the present, and the printed page is a potent "weapon of warfare," and the church must continue to use it with increasing purposefulness.

The Austral Printing and Publishing Company is dedicated to serve the entire brotherhood. All money, over and above operating costs and improvements, has gone back into brotherhood work. Not one penny has gone to private interests. It pays no directors' fees nor dividends to shareholders. It exists to be a servant of the brotherhood, and through the brotherhood it serves the highest values in our common humanity.

Those who have directed its interests have never lacked a sense of brotherhood. The names of previous managers, A. B. Maston, F. G. Dunn, G. P. Pittman and Douglas E. Pittman, are a sufficient guarantee of the fact. Great care is exercised to serve the brotherhood without partiality to any one church com-

churches of Christ, it is able to fulfil the needs of many missionary societies, city missions, Bible and tract societies, lesson material for Sunday schools, and a number of monthly church bulletins and orders of service.

## "The Australian Christian"

This national weekly of churches of Christ receives a priority in the Company's work. It aims to further the teachings of the Bible, inspire Christian living, convey world-wide religious news, interpret present-day trends, and gives a digest of brotherhood activities.

## "Austral Graded Lessons"

These are written especially for the Australian and New Zealand churches of Christ Sunday schools, with the doctrinal emphasis of those churches. It is a non-profit under-

taking. Quality is never sacrificed for financial gain. These lessons are produced by the Austral Graded Lesson Board of Control, but the actual task of printing and distribution is the responsibility of The Austral Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd.

## "Pure Words"

For forty-nine years this magazine for boys and girls has been produced as a supplementary unit in Sunday school work. It is growing in popularity, and has now reached a circulation of 6000. Like the two former projects, it, too, is a non-profit activity.

## Books, Tracts and Merchandise

The "Austral," as it is often styled by its friends, has its finger on the local church, and has tried to prove helpful in stocking books and church requisites. This service involves a considerable outlay of money; in the case of hymnbooks several thousands of pounds. Printing and publishing is a very exact work, and has demanded time and interest at the expense of a fuller development of the book department. The "Austral" tracts have been a purposeful thrust in promoting New Testament Christianity. They are worthy of more co-operative support from an understanding brotherhood to enable a renewal to meet tomorrow's special needs in the language of today.

## Toward Increased Service

In 1948 the company's premises were improved and extended. Another forward looking event has now taken place. A new, high-speed, two-revolution press, with automatic feeder and delivery, has been installed at a cost of approximately £9000. The preliminary tests give promise that it will give added capacity to the work of the company.

The Austral Printing and Publishing Company is self-supporting, and since it makes no annual appeal, lacks the opportunity of regularly reminding the brotherhood of the importance of its work. Nevertheless it covets the understanding goodwill of all, so that its objective may be realised.

## Bethany Boys' Hostel

BETHANY Boys' Hostel, Dover, South Tasmania, has come to form an important part of social service work of the Tasmanian brotherhood. It demands continued effort and support, yet offers reward to the cause of Christ, whose work it is.

Those whose responsibility it has been to manage the hostel have planned to provide a recreation building for organised activities in inclement weather.

Under £100 was held for such a purpose. Of this amount a considerable portion consisted of gifts made a year ago by churches and members on the mainland. At the Easter State conference the need was again stressed; over £60 was promised and practical aid indicated to carry out the scheme to build a 30 ft. x 30 ft. vertically boarded building, costing approximately £300, suitably equipped, over the long week holiday in June.

In the weeks that ensued, much planning, securing of necessary materials—a major task in itself—arranging for accommodation, catering, and transport, etc., took place. Money gifts came in splendidly. Two working-bees completed the concrete foundation and a good part of the floor bearings.

The evening of Friday, 10th, found all in readiness and the influx of workers to Dover begun. Thomas Orr, our able "boss," arrived two days earlier with the vanguard of working force. Their work of selecting, cutting and marking all the timber was a wonderful start. Then the northern contingent arrived.

Work began early on Saturday morning. 24

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# Easter at Dhoraja

*This article by H. Waghmodi shows how the Indian church is seeking to give a deep Christian significance to Indian festivals.*

**B**EGINNING last year, Dhoraja people have held a Christian "Mela," or a "Jutra." B. V. Coventry set this ball rolling, and we hope that it will soon gather its momentum. Last year they had S. P. Hivale as their guest, and this year I had the privilege to be so honored.

It was a two-day affair, and people came from Pargaon, Bhangaon and Shrigonda to take part. The important days in this affair were Saturday and Sunday of Easter week. From all that we did there, we can say that it was a successful year and a time of spiritual blessing.

As this "Jutra" is a new venture in our mission, it needs a little more explanation.

The spirit of this type of Jutra is not foreign to our village churches in India. They are held all over India, especially during this time of the year. Almost every village has its own Jutra at least once a year. "Jutra" only means a fair held in the honor of a god or goddess. Naturally they are plentiful among the Hindus. The village people chose the most convenient day for their Jutra in the season, and make all arrangements for it. All villagers pay their

the wind prevented us from showing other pictures. So we had bhajan for a while, and then followed a time of fellowship and prayers which finished at 12.30 a.m. Even after this some people went on with the bhajan.

On Sunday morning, at sunrise, we had a procession from the school building, which is in the village, up to the bungalow, about two furlongs from the village. There, at the bungalow on the hill, we had a devotional period together. After this, most of us were engaged in making preparations for a community dinner at night. Many Christians out of their poverty contributed willingly towards this dinner; although the mission took the biggest share. Some gave as much as two shillings. Some wage earners gave up their whole day's labor to make this day a success. There were some women who couldn't give anything in terms of money, so they made their contribution by grinding the corn for us. This is another example of the widow's mite. The Lord used this all for his glory. And the main thing in a "Jutra" is that it is held in the

honor of God. We must not lose sight of this. In the afternoon Miss Cameron, with some of her girls, arrived amongst us, when we had the communion service in the school building. While Christians were thus witnessing about the Lord Jesus Christ, dozens of Hindus from the village were observing the deep significance of "The Lord's Supper." About 80 communicants and more than 40 others were present at the service.

The community dinner was served at three sittings, owing to lack of space. And strangely enough, against all the Indian customs, the first sitting consisted of the women folk only. Along with us were people of other missions as well. They were deeply impressed by the spirit of this Jutra. After this, the whole of the evening was spent in singing and talking which concluded with a devotional period.

On Monday morning, which was the breaking-off day, the whole crowd gathered together at the bungalow when we had a thanksgiving to God. We give glory to God for all that has been done in his name. In fact, we have only begun in his Name and for his sake. We hope and pray and invite prayers so that this little cause may grow stronger and prove a great blessing to the village Christians in the years to come.

NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 2, OVERSEAS OFFERING.



Market Scene, India.

Crowd listening to loud speaker. Speaker is used to advantage at "Jutras" when the crowds come together. Scripture sales have numbered over 5000 in twelve months.

contribution towards it into the treasury. Some families take in guests as well. Other guests are provided with meals by special arrangements. Wrestlers, singers and dancers of reputation are invited from far and near to prove their skill. From as far as Punjab the wrestlers come to such functions. Firework displays are given during the night, and crowds of people from surrounding villages flock to the Jutra-place, to enjoy fellowship with other villagers. Young and old at this time become "jutra-minded."

This is something peculiar to India and is lacking in the Christian church. Where the lack is felt strongly our Christians have tried to introduce some of its spirit into the church. We Christians can quite imagine a similar crowd of Jews that used to gather in Jerusalem to observe the Passover. At that time the scattered people of Israel used to come together in a bond of unity and in closer fellowship with one another. To-day we need a lot of such uniting in fellowship and joy among the scattered Christians in the villages of India. As we are so few in India, we certainly need to be closer still.

We adopted the spirit of "Jutra" at Dhoraja. Most of us were there by Saturday afternoon, when we had the wrestling matches between the village boys as well as some men. The guests were looked after by the resident Christians. In the evening we invited the Hindus as well to see the pictures and hear the Christian "Bhajan." A crowd of about two hundred gathered for this. The story of the Good Samaritan was shown on the screen. After this

## World of Books

"History of British Churches of Christ," by A. C. Watters, M.A., Ph.D.

**B**UTLER University, Indianapolis, U.S.A., has published this outline of the establishment and growth of churches of Christ in Great Britain. Those who would appreciate the development of the Restoration Movement in America and Australia need to take notice of the facts presented so clearly by Dr. Watters. He shows that British churches of Christ have now grown out of their isolationist attitude. He points out clearly that they are taking an interest in the world-wide church, and are particularly anxious to see the World Council of Churches develop along right lines. Because of various statements made by churches of Christ representatives, some church scholars see the ideal of those churches as a bridge to link all churches into one fellowship. Even although few in numbers, they are capable of making a contribution far greater than their numbers suggest. Unfortunately supplies of this book cannot be secured from America by The Austral. Those interested ought to write direct to School of Religion, Butler University, Indianapolis, Indiana, U.S.A.

"Is It Safe to Adopt a Baby?" by F. Oswald Barnett, M.Com.

**B**Y tracing the life-history of one hundred babies adopted from the Methodist Babies' Home, Mr. Barnett provides an answer to many questions raised about babies taken from such an institution. He shows that the influence of a good home has much to do with the life of little ones taken from most unpromising circumstances. Ninety per cent. of couples have been more than satisfied by the blessing these children have brought to them. As a social study, it is of value, and as a guide to those considering the adoption of a child it is very reassuring. There are 32 pages in paper cover, priced 2/6; posted, 2/7½.

"Letters to Young Churches," by J. B. Phillips, is a translation of the New Testament Epistles into modern English. In a comment on this new book R. T. Pittman writes: "There is al-

ways profit in comparing individual translations with the Authorised Version, when they are the product of sound scholarship. The language of this version is fresh and vivid—at times perhaps a shade too colloquial—and the student should get considerable help in understanding passages where the meaning is obscure. Section headings are a valuable feature of the work. The introduction is provided by C. S. Lewis, author of 'The Screwtape Letters,' and other works." Copies are still available from The Austral Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., at 12/3 per copy; postage 6d.

## BETHANY BOYS' HOME

(Concluded.)

men were soon hard at work, with 12 sisters sustaining them.

The first wall completed was erected, and half the flooring, by 10.30 a.m. The second completed wall was up and the remainder of the floor by 12.30 p.m. The remaining walls were up by 3.30 p.m. The roof was almost ready for the iron by dark. On Monday, with the same forces, though there were new faces, windows and door frames were installed, asbestos surfeit erected, spouting in place, finishing touches to timbering completed, all by lunch-time. The whole building was given a coat of oil, by spraying with a stirrup pump, the iron on the roof, electrical wiring completed, louver window fittings and doors fitted to complete venture, by 6.30 p.m.

Tired, but happy, brethren and sisters gathered in building, and the feelings of all were expressed in words of congratulation, culminating in singing of the "Doxology."

Results are: a fine building, which will be of very great value to the boys and staff; a rich fellowship in labor, relaxation and meetings with Dover and Geeveston brethren; a gaining of knowledge and interest in the hostel; the opportunity to meet Mr. and Mrs. Keith Denholm, the new superintendent and matron.

Finally, to all who participated, either by monetary and practical gifts, by labor, by "holding of the fort" at home, and to those who, by friendly co-operation in the securing of materials and in other ways, helped, the sincerest thanks of the boys, staff, the committee of management, and the Tasmanian brotherhood have been expressed.—G.W.B.

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# COMMONWEALTH ROUND-UP

## HERE AND THERE

J. K. ROBINSON, of Perth, W.A., has accepted the invitation to be organiser and secretary of the Federal Aborigines Board.

The Victorian Social Service Committee has received an anonymous donation of £40 in 8 five pound notes, and desires to thank the donor.

A. H. Pratt, who has been serving the new cause at Mt. Evelyn, Vic., entered Lilydale Hospital for an operation on June 9. We learn he is making satisfactory progress.

The number of those indicating their intention of attending Federal Conference at Hobart, Tas., is increasing. Those who are planning to go and have not registered should do so immediately.

"Marquee, at East Ipswich, Qld., was crowded to capacity; 276 at gospel service, Sunday; 6 decisions to date; Lloyd Jones preaching effectively; Chaplain L. G. Crisp song-leader; prayers of brotherhood solicited.—Fergusson."

Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Hagger are well settled in their new home next to the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, Vic. Mr. Hagger is bright, although confined to his bed most of the day. Both send greetings to their many friends throughout Australia.

"Protestant Sunday," as promoted by the Victorian Protestant Federation, will be observed on August 20, owing to "Education Week" commencing with August 13. The secretary of the Federation will forward to each Victorian minister and missionary information suitable for use in sermons for that day.

Despite inclement weather, 90 attended annual fellowship tea held on June 17 at Wollongong, N.S.W. Reports were presented from all auxiliaries, showing work's progressive state. A presentation was made to Mr. and Mrs. R. Williams in appreciation of use of their home prior to erection of hall at Warrawong. Great interest is shown in preaching of E. C. Hinrichsen. Mr. Witherwick passed away on June 21 after a short illness. Sympathy of church goes to Mrs. Witherwick and her daughter, Mrs. Thompson. Sister Perrin is still convalescent after a severe illness.

An inspirational mission, conducted by B. W. Manning at Nailsworth, S.A., closed June 22, with a large congregation. At close of service a presentation was made to missionary, and thanks were expressed to Fullarton church. Members have been stimulated by messages. On June 18 a scholar from school made the good confession. Men's Club held a successful open night on June 20, when a programme of color films was presented by Vacuum Oil Co. Church sorrows at death of D. McQueen, one of the deacons, after a prolonged illness. The high esteem in which he was held was evidenced by large number who attended the funeral service conducted by Mr. Shipway and Mr. Fisher on June 22.

For 49 years The Austral Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd. has published a magazine for boys and girls known as "Pure Words." Its circulation is now approximately 6000. It aims to supplement Sunday school work, and put a Christian interpretation into life. By its spiritual content it hopes to make up the deficiency in so much of the secular literature provided for children. The June issue has special pages featuring the following items: Interesting People and What They Do; Boys who Became Great Men; Managing Money and Our Exchange Bureau. "Doc," the friend of teenagers, writes about "The Mistaken Army." The Young Worshipers' League and Helpers' Club pages teach as well as interest. The long and continued success of the paper is due to the late D. F. Pittman. Since October, 1949, the magazine has been edited by W. R. Hibburt.

The death of Mrs. F. Haines is reported. Many will know of her work at Lygon-st. church, but others will recall her as the mother of Miss F. Haines, assistant secretary of the Victorian Conference. To all who mourn we offer deepest sympathy.

At Ivanhoe, Vic., on June 11, three young men, Dog, Walpole, Adrian Shaw and Ian Donohue, confessed Christ. W. Baird is conducting a class prior to gospel service to help young people who made their confession in recent weeks. Mr. Baird's evening messages have been helpful to young people and his ministry is appreciated. A song service has been commenced prior to evening service, under leadership of L. Jones. Sympathy is expressed for Mr. Pettigrove, who is very ill. Quite recently members of Good Companions' Comrade Club received an appreciative letter from Miss Sylvia Gibbons, who is abroad. Scholars of both schools are being prepared for scripture examinations. Senior Girls' Club has been formed.



Mrs. A. MadelCole, president of Women's Federal Conference, who writes, "The Tasmanian reception committee will excel themselves in the entertaining of delegates and visitors who come to lovely Tasmania."

Church at Lake-st., Perth, W.A., has had several additions to membership since last report. Three young men (one an aboriginal, with his white friend, and a naval medical man) were baptised. Mr. Lamzed was received by transfer from Victoria Park (he is now resident caretaker), and Mrs. Fountain. The latter was in membership prior to living in country. Lake-st. church is in 60th year and is planning a diamond-jubilee anniversary for October. Thankoffering to be taken is to be diverted to tent mission starting on Oct. 8. A special meeting of church was called to discuss a suggestion that a board of elders be elected; this move was vetoed. The general view of meeting was that never had Lake-st. church possessed such an active and harmonious board of deacons. It is with regret that church receives resignation of minister, J. Keith Robinson. Mr. Robinson has resigned to take up position of organiser and secretary of Federal Aborigines Board, rendered vacant by resignation of David Hammer. Board is to be congratulated on choice, as Mr. Robinson is a most capable organiser. Dorcas Society and Young Women's Fellowship organised a successful jumble sale. Despite bad weather about £15 was raised.

## THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

June 27, 1950

## Conversion of Christians

"CHRISTIANS need reconvertng to Christianity at least once in each generation." That sentence opened a campaign in a recent mission in London. G. K. Chesterton was given to shocking people awake with the reminder that they were losing the vital thrill and meaning of their chief treasures—their marriages, families, faith—by taking them for granted.

In this A.B.C. session, "The Conversion of Christians," speakers are talking to those who have got into the habit of taking for granted the fact that they are Christians. The session is on the air at 3.30 p.m. E.S.T. each Sunday on the A.B.C. national programme. Speakers are as follow: July 2, "The Conversion of Christians—to the Quest of Truth," by A. Boyce Gibson; 9th, J. S. Moyes; 23rd, Leo. Dalton; 30th, R. C. Halse; Aug. 13, Frank W. Coal-drake; 20th, Ralph F. Sutton; 27th, Professor John McIntyre.



## Federal Conference

### NOTICES OF BUSINESS.

THE following clause from constitution is published for general information:

"Six weeks' notice in writing shall be given to the executive of all business to be brought forward at any meeting of conference; such notice to set forth fully the motion to be moved, and shall be signed by the proposer. No matter shall be discussed at any meeting of conference unless such notice has been given."

In order to comply with the requirements of the constitution, any such notices must be in hands of secretary, 246 Highfield-rd., Burwood, E.13, Vic., not later than August 24.—D. Wakeley.



## Berri and Winkie, S.A.

AVERAGE attendances at worship and gospel services are well maintained. Miss Suetta Campbell (Winkie Bible school) and Mrs. Tanner, of Berri, received right hand of fellowship by faith and baptism. The late F. J. Tucker's home call at age of 81 years came after several months' in the Bamera Memorial Hospital. Our brother had given many years of witness to cause at Berri. To Mrs. Jolly and relatives who mourn, church extended sincere sympathy. Sympathy was also offered Sister B. J. Lawson and members of her family in death of father as result of an accident. Twenty-five members of Men's Fellowship journeyed to Adelaide during holiday week-end as guests of Croydon church. A time of fellowship was enjoyed, and visit will be remembered. A combined fellowship tea and social evening were held with Berri, Winkie and Croydon members at Hindmarsh on 10th, with members of Hindmarsh at Port Line Group. Visiting brethren had part in service for worship at Hindmarsh on Lord's day, when J. Mannallack gave an inspiring address. River Murray party were entertained at Croydon, followed by a tea-table inspirational gathering of men. Gospel service was conducted by Berri and Winkie brethren in a service of song. There was one decision for Christ.

Visit of Bruce Coventry was appreciated by church at Berri and Bible school at Winkie. A party of approximately 30 members of United Aborigines Mission, in charge of Mr. Siggs, from Winkie, travelled to Berri to hear Mr. Coventry's message on work on Indian field. C. Pockington, North Perth, W.A., has been amongst recent visitors. Crusade Committee is actively engaged on programme for stewardship, under leadership of Mr. Manallack.



# News of the Churches

## Queensland

**Mackay.**—During past seven months, an intensive effort has been put forward to liquidate debt on building; this resulted in debt being more than halved. Lining of chapel with fibro and masonite is now completed, and adds considerably to interior attraction of building. Eight travelled to Rockhampton for North Queensland district conference. Mackay will be the centre for 1951 conference.

**Albion.**—Young people who entered for Talent Quest gained good marks. Final results showed Albion church to be the winner of quest. Ninety ladies attended overseas mission rally and luncheon, held in chapel, May 30, when £20 was received for missions. June 4 was observed as Shut-in Sunday, when visits were made to sick in homes and hospitals. Real fellowship was experienced by thirty young people who spent first week-end in June at National Fitness Camp, Burleigh Heads. Interesting discussions were conducted on theme, "Everyday Religion." Spiritual and social activities were well balanced, due to capable guidance of camp leader, Mr. Wright.

**Lowood.**—V. G. Boettcher has been engaged in a part-time ministry since April 30. A Sunday school of eleven scholars has been formed, under supervision of Mr. and Mrs. Boettcher. Special Mother's Day tea was arranged, and chapel was packed in an inspiring evening service. On June 2 a camp fire evening was held on the Brisbane river picnic reserve, when 150 persons attended. Devotional service was conducted by East Ipswich fellowship. Bricks have been purchased for front fence of chapel and a fund started to liquidate cost of project. Recent financial statement revealed a healthy credit balance and a 50 per cent. average increase in offerings since commencement of Mr. Boettcher's ministry. Youth campers of church have decided to instal a porch light and vestry powerpoint, from camp profits. Deacons gratefully accepted offer of A. R. Pieper to present to church a polished silky oak communion table and chairs from sisters and self, in memory of parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. Pieper. Working bees have improved chapel buildings and grounds. Although cause is not quite a year old, much work has been accomplished by enthusiasm of members; future prospects are bright.

## Western Australia

**Northam.**—Attendances are being maintained and often church enjoys fellowship of New Australians, who pass through various camps in Northam. On June 10 a youth rally was held. About 30 metropolitan folk assisted in various capacities. On Sunday morning about 210 assembled in chapel to worship. Sunday afternoon and Saturday night meetings were well attended. Meckering and York churches are still in good spirits under the ministry of Mr. Lord. Cottage prayer meetings have recommenced in all parts of town. Thursday night prayer meeting is well attended.

**South Perth.**—Work continues in good heart, despite many difficulties. Lack of accommodation and facilities render youth and other work most difficult. The need for a church building is felt keenly. Bible school is growing under leadership of K. Ballantine, securing first place in State "Increase and Attendance Campaign" in its division. About fifty new scholars enrolled in three months as result of a systematic drive. Attendances have reached

130. Men's Fellowship has been started, under leadership of T. Scotland and D. Shedley. Church has enjoyed fellowship with Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Curtis and son, John, transferred from Cottonville, S.A., and Mrs. Willis-Jones, from Bassendean. Mr. Nixon is to enter hospital shortly for an operation, and will be on sick leave for six weeks. At annual business meeting of church, B. Wesley intimated that he could not continue as secretary. His untiring service and enthusiastic leadership have been appreciated. New officers appointed were: F. Raymond, secretary, and J. Pallot, treasurer.

**Cottesloe.**—Church had pleasure of baptising three young girls, Kathleen Hayes, Valma McKim, Joy McNess, who were welcomed on June 4. In absence of Mr. Sewell, who was at Gutha, on June 11, Mr. Hammer spoke in morning and Mr. Hunt at night. On June 16 R. Manning showed excellent films of Singapore, proceeds of meeting being for youth director's salary. On June 18 Junior Christian Endeavor was started. Five young people went to teachers' training camp. Sunday school has won increase and attendance campaign.

**North Perth.**—Mrs. Olson has been received into fellowship. Church was pleased to welcome Mrs. Arthur. School at Goondanna Heights is making steady progress. A teachers' training course has commenced. Y.P. members visited Maylands Y.P. Society. Church anniversary services were commenced on June 11. Messages of Mr. Ewers were a challenge. On Wednesday evening anniversary was continued, commencing with a basket tea. Members are planning a visitation of district in preparation for a tent mission, to be conducted by Mr. Buckingham, of Victoria, in August. Mrs. Ferber has resigned as superintendent of kindergarten, after years of faithful service. Ladies' Aid visited home of Mrs. Ewers.

## South Australia

**Prospect.**—On June 12 members of church enjoyed a motor tour through hills. Tuesday night fellowship meeting continues to be interesting and helpful. Two girls' basketball teams are competing in Churches of Christ Basketball Association. Mr. Patching was speaker at both services on the Sunday.

**Cowandilla.**—Band of Hope, under leadership of R. Kemp and M. Pollard, continues to have helpful meetings. Recently a film evening was held to raise funds for work of Sunday school. The two women's clubs combined to give Mrs. Robinson a pantry afternoon. On June 14 Women's Social Club invited men to a bowls evening. Four basketball teams continue to play well. Average attendances for April: 62, a.m.; 76, p.m.; 77 communicants.

**Mile End.**—Church anniversary services were held on June 4, when speaker at morning service was Harry Manning, a former pastor. Following gospel service, at which about 150 were present, monthly sing-song was held. Celebrations were continued on Wednesday, 7th, with a fellowship tea, followed by a meeting at which A. J. Fisher showed film on stewardship. Choir assisted, at evening meetings, with special anthems, while Maylands Male Quartette gave items on Wednesday night. Bible school has commenced a Young Worshipers' League, held in conjunction with

evening service. Bible school attendances have been over 100. Y.P.S.C.E. has had two visiting speakers, Mr. Bartlett, May 23, and N. Gavros, on visit from New Zealand, June 6.

**Fullarton.**—At recent C.E. Union Elocutionary and Choral Competitions (Intermediate Dept.) first place, in duet under 16 (vocal) was awarded to Margaret Hooper and Jennifer Outlaw. On June 18 morning worship service was helpful. A young man, Neil Young, led service admirably, and address by Harry Liu, of China, was an inspiration. Mr. Liu spoke also to the J.C.E. Evening service was preceded by a song service. B. W. Manning preached and also sang a solo.

**Forestville.**—On June 4 Jim Reid was added by faith and baptism, when a large congregation broke bread. Aileen Haynes and Maxine Humby, from senior Bible class, were baptised at evening service. W. A. Russell preached at both services. 200 were present at Bible school in afternoon, attendances in primary and senior departments being highest on record. New or returned scholars are being welcomed each Lord's day, 35 in past eight weeks. On June 9 Biblical Research Society and church held monthly combined prayer meeting. M. Harrison gave an inspiring message. Miss Humby was received into church on June 11 by faith and baptism. W. A. Russell delivered a challenging message. J. T. Train is making a slow recovery from a painful leg injury which has laid him aside for some months.

**Unley.**—Visit of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Coventry was appreciated. Prior to morning service they spoke to C.E. groups. Mr. Coventry's address to church told of wonderful opportunity confronting missionaries. On following Friday he again advanced claims of India, when he showed pictures. Members responded well to appeal for foodstuffs to be taken to India, a large parcel being collected. Our pastor assisted church at Queenstown in visitation evangelism campaign. Misses Ruth and Esther Messent have been welcomed home after holiday visit to England. Annual social, arranged by Mission Band, resulted in £17 being raised for missions. A happy evening was enjoyed by a large number of members and friends. Sunday school has publicised Happy Hours series of after school meetings and hopes to gain new scholars. Mrs. C. Tonkin has undertaken convenership of catering committee. In addition to two teams of girls playing basketball, a team for boys has been formed. On holiday, young people enjoyed a hike to Blackwood. Arranged by the C.Y.F., a visit to the central telephone exchange proved interesting and instructive.

**Kilburn.**—C.Y.F. held usual weekly meeting on June 7, when 28 young people enjoyed devotional session and games. Attendance at 10 a.m. Bible school, on June 11, was 132. Assistance of Ross Gaskin, of Nailsworth, as teacher, was appreciated. Bruce Coventry was speaker at 11.15 a.m. service, when 33 adults and 45 Young Worshipers were told of work in India. J.C.E. held meeting at 2.45 p.m., under leadership of superintendent, Miss Beth Riches, and planned campaign for efficiency and increase, attendance being 25. Girls' basketball team is consolidating. On King's Birthday holiday about 35 members and friends of the C.Y.F. held a picnic at the Botanic Gardens. Brethren from Maylands church conducted 11.15 a.m. service on June 18. Mr. Daniels presided, Paul Magarey and Ray Anderson read scriptures, and R. Britain told story to 45 Young Worshipers and preached acceptably to 38 adults. Others accompanied these helpfully, and visit was appreciated. Attendance at 10 a.m. Bible school was 133; 6 new scholars were enrolled. Church met for brief business session after service and decided to close 7 p.m. gospel service until end of August, and to resume with special youth service as first meeting. It was decided that on third Sunday of each month morning service take form of gospel service and communion, especially in interests of youth. J.C.E. held third meeting at 2.45 p.m., attendance, 22.



**Cottonville.**—Several ladies went to Aldgate Valley to attend a special meeting on June 7. Junior Endeavor work is in good heart, new members being added. Sunday school teachers held quarterly meeting on June 18, when work was reported to be progressive. Mrs. Miller was welcomed as a new kindergarten teacher. Increased efficiency and sixteen new scholars are results of campaign now being conducted. Mr. Mathieson has given fine addresses at all services. There have been three decisions.

**Naracoorte.**—A "Happy Hours" campaign, held in April, and conducted by S. E. Matthews, of Semaphore, with the help of W. B. Burn, preacher, proved interesting to many children of town. Lasting for ten days, attendance reached over 100. New Bible schools are being opened in district. Meetings at Padthaway, Mt. Burr-Larpeena continue. At an after-church gathering in April, opportunity was taken to farewell Mr. and Mrs. McNicol, who left to reside at Blackwood (S.A.). Miss N. J. Roberts has been received into church by faith and baptism. A. Danckops has been received into fellowship of church by transfer from Stirling East, and Sister Danckops has been received by faith and baptism. Ladies' Guild packed and sent a food parcel to Adelaide to be forwarded to missionaries in India. S. E. Hawkes, of British and Foreign Bible Society, spoke on morning of May 21, and at night, following the church services, Mr. Hawkes gave, in Presbyterian Hall, a lantern lecture on India. On afternoon of May 30, Ladies' Guilds presented to Mrs. McKelvie a gift, prior to her departure for Adelaide. At a Christian Youth Fellowship gathering on June 1, a surprise evening was tendered Miss N. J. Roberts for her 21st birthday. W. V. McKenzie is in Daws-rd. Hospital, undergoing treatment. Money has been raised to purchase a projector for use in church work and among young people. At morning service, June 11, H. Williams, of Kaniva, was speaker, and at night, following evening service, Mr. Williams showed films of work in New Hebrides.

## New South Wales

**Earlwood.**—On May 28 L. C. Yelds, Bexley North, exhorted, giving a helpful message, whilst A. Hinrichsen addressed a well-attended gospel service. R. Greenhalgh conducted a flannelgraph service for "Seekers' Club" on June 2. A. Hinrichsen addressed services on June 4, there being a record attendance at morning service. On June 11 P. R. Nielsen, preacher of Blackheath, exhorted church.

**Lidcombe.**—Annual meeting of Parramatta District Sisters Conference was held in chapel, June 8, when Mrs. Baker was elected president and Mrs. Bell secretary. Coral Vaughan, Pauline Porter and Len Mason have confessed Christ since last report. Successful Bible school anniversary and Mother's Day services have been held, speakers being J. Davidson, W. Taylor, of Auburn, and A. Baker. A shower tea was given Miss Violet Argall prior to her marriage to Les Walker. Mrs. Ferris has been laid aside for several weeks. Church suffered a loss when James Fraser died on June 11. A campaign for increased Bible reading has been commenced amongst members.

## Victoria

**Newmarket.**—On May 28 Bible school anniversary was held, when L. Cooke and K. A. Jones brought interesting addresses. On June 5, Ladies Guild met at home of Mrs. McKenzie, at Box Hill. On June 8, Sunday school social and prize night was held. Mr. McKenzie spoke at both services on 18th.

**Ascot Vale.**—The 59th anniversary of church brought a large number of present and former members to happy reunions. L. Williams addressed church at morning service. Evening meeting was a family night. Items were rendered by several members of families. C. Burtt gave an appreciated address. Sunday school is still on up-grade.

**East Emerald.**—Church has been blessed on several occasions recently by visits of P. Foster and band of young people from North Fitzroy. Bible school has increased 100 per cent. over last year. R. V. Holmes is giving valued help first Sunday in each month.

**Geelong.**—On June 12 a number of members journeyed to Ballarat to enjoy the fellowship of South-western District Conference. On 14th, matron of Bethany Babies Home gave an interesting talk. Orange and apples were collected for Home. Sunday services on 18th were helpful. Mr. Anderson preached. Many visitors have had fellowship with church during past two weeks.

**Dandenong.**—On May 28, in absence of Mr. Youens at Bamba-rd., Mr. Sheehan, from St. Kilda, spoke at both services. Women's Mission Band celebrated 20th birthday on June 7, when an enjoyable afternoon was spent with ladies from sister churches. Phi Betas entertained Springvale club on June 22, Springvale supplying programme. Mrs. H. Schilling and Sister Turvey have had operations recently. Mrs. Nankivell is back at worship after her illness.

**Brunswick.**—At recent business meeting H. Anderson, W. Jenkin, G. Ward and G. Scambler were re-elected deacons for following year, with A. Marsh and W. Jenkin secretary and treasurer respectively. Mr. Burman, of West Preston, has accepted invitation to lead work on a part-time basis. Mr. Burman and family were welcomed at a social evening. A. B. Withers outlined Mr. Burman's past work, and commended him to church. Attendances at services have been fair in recent weeks; a visiting brother made the good confession. Several members have been ill in past weeks, Mrs. Adams being laid aside at present. Sister Grace Anderson, on recovering from operation, is again able to attend, also several members who have been on holidays.

**Mt. Evelyn.**—Mrs. Thurrowgood has returned home after a serious operation. Mr. and Mrs. Pedley came home on June 4, after five months of Mr. Pedley's serious illness in Melbourne. Mr. Pedley is still very weak. Mrs. Pedley was warmly welcomed on June 11. Mrs. Matthews was called to Hamilton to be with her daughter, Phillis, who underwent a serious operation. After a relapse she was sent to Melbourne for treatment, but is now improving. On May 28, H. Graham, assisted by Mr. Fenny, conducted service owing to sudden illness of A. H. Pratt, who underwent a serious operation in Lilydale Hospital on June 9; he is making satisfactory progress. Church has suffered a serious loss in removal of W. Thompson, who helped so splendidly with the purchasing of building block; H. Graham addressed church on June 18. Attendances are good.

**Boort.**—Church is thankful to members who are continuing to help faithfully in church during difficult time just now, while there is no permanent preacher. On May 7, Mr. Candy, of Swan Hill, spoke at anniversary services. His addresses to church and Bible school were well received. Members from Pyramid Hill also enjoyed the day. Scholars sang well under Alan Streader. A record offering for Bible school work was received. A social was held following week. Alan Streader is back after being in hospital because of an accident. Kevin Dyer and his wife were farewelled before leaving for Harcourt. They were presented with a travelling rug. At business meeting, June 7, all officers were re-elected. Bible school staff consists of Alan Streader, superintendent; assist. supt., Robt. Lanyon. Teachers have been faithful. Sunday offerings have risen £3 over previous years. At business meeting Robt. Lanyon was elected to be church foreign missionary contact. Church has had pleasure in recent weeks in welcoming to meetings several old members.

**Gardenvale.**—Chaplain C. Young was speaker at fellowship tea on June 4. A Young Worshipers' League has been formed. A record number of entries have been received for the annual scripture examinations. Boys' Explorer Club visited the Y.M.C.A. on June 14. Many visitors have been present. Mr. Hunt continues to address meetings, and encourages the young people.

**Carnegie.**—Mr. Coventry has resumed after illness, and was speaker at morning worship on June 11, and C. Cole at 7 p.m. June 18, Mr. Coventry spoke at 11 a.m. Men's Society met for fellowship tea, when T. G. Westwood, of Dandenong, brought a devotional message, and later spoke at gospel meeting. Mission Band ladies visited Christian Guest Home, June 8, and conducted meeting.

**St. Kilda.**—Church extended thanks to South Yarra brethren who presided and took readings on June 4. A local member presided at South Yarra on same date. Mrs. Quick is unable to meet regularly. Church hopes she will be able to renew fellowship later. G. P. Pittman continues to give sterling service by taking morning services. Officers conduct meetings at night. Mrs. Dall and A. Finger, owing to illness, are unable to attend services.

**Essendon.**—Cricketers' banquet and presentation night was held in school hall, May 27. Mr. McIlhagger was speaker at both services on June 4. A baptismal service was observed in evening. Young Ladies' Fellowship celebrated second birthday on June 6. On June 10 officers of church held successful social at home of Mr. and Mrs. Muir. Opportunity was taken to farewell Mr. and Mrs. Marr and family who are leaving for Portland. They were presented with a utility set. Mr. Potts (Nth. Essendon) was speaker at morning service on June 11. Kinders held mothers' service in afternoon. Each mother was presented with small gift. A quartette was rendered by teachers. Mr. Turnham (Preston) was speaker at evening service. Singing by choir at evening meetings has been much appreciated.

**Sunshine.**—June saw completion of first year of Mr. Alcorn's service with church. Brethren look forward to further blessings under his continued guidance. In May Mr. Grainger presented a morning message to church. Sunday school scholars are busy preparing for scripture examinations; staff is assisting in preparation of lessons. On evening of June 15, Y.P.S.C.E. held a missionary evening at which R. J. Storey, of the U.F.M., brought colored films, and lectured on work of his society in Fly River and Amazon Valley. A Young Worshipers' League commenced on June 25 under leadership of Sister M. Wright; 18 worshippers were present. Members were pleased to renew fellowship with N. Gavros, one-time preacher. He was on vacation from New Zealand, and addressed church while here.

**Red Hill.**—On May 20, Y.P.S.C.E. and P.F.A. held a combined meeting. J. Magilton preached at morning service and A. Salmon at gospel service on May 21 in absence of G. Smith. Vic. Holmes gave talk to Y.W.L. On 28th G. Smith spoke at morning and evening services. District Bayside Youth Fellowship met at Red Hill and held annual meeting on 3rd. Ray Salmon was elected secretary. G. Smith gave helpful messages at morning and gospel meeting of 4th. A song service was held after evening meeting, supper being provided by ladies. Y.P.S.C.E. met and held meeting at home of Mrs. N. Prossor on 8th. Cottage meetings were commenced on June 10, members meeting at homes of L. Brown and A. Salmon. F. Butler and G. Smith were in charge of meetings. G. Smith conducted both services on 11th, visitors from Ballarat being present. Les. Brown conducted a song service; Grace Kerville and Dawn Prossor rendered a duet. At Ladies' Mission Band annual meeting, those elected to office were: President, Mrs. D. Holmes; vice-president, Mrs. L. Brown and Mrs. M. Wright; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. Hal Holmes; assistant secretary, Mrs. H. Holmes; pianist, Mrs. Littlejohn. Y.P.S.C.E.



held meeting at home of L. Brown on June 16. Cottage meeting was held at home of Mrs. E. Andrews on 17th, G. Smith being leader. Mrs. Torney is out of hospital. S. Prossor met with an accident during week but is progressing.

**Springvale.**—Church united with Salvation Army at evening service. Three were welcomed by faith and obedience on June 18. Mr. Anderson, missionary to Tibet, gave an inspiring message. Mr. Philpot, missionary to Israel, gave splendid address at worship service on June 25, Mr. Bond giving good addresses at other services. Church has secured a manse. Two were received into fellowship by faith and obedience, also Mr. and Mrs. Baxter, from Swan Hill. Average offering is £16/10/-.

**Preston.**—A time of reaping has been experienced during past weeks, several confessions of faith having been received. These are fruits of faithful work of Mr. Searle, who is untiring in the ministry of visitation. At evening service on June 18, nine young people were immersed, eight of whom were welcomed into fellowship on June 25, together with one by transfer from Dawson-st., Ballarat. The marriage of Sylvia Morfrew to R. Lofts was celebrated in chapel on June 17, J. E. Searle officiating. Arts and crafts exhibition, arranged by Sunday school, was held on June 24, many interesting exhibits being displayed, in addition to competitive readings, musical and vocal items being given.

**Ascot Vale.**—A service for youth was held on morning of June 18, scholars of school taking part. Scripture lessons were read by senior boys. B. Sterling, Sunday school superintendent, gave an impressive flannel talk. At evening service the story of Ruth was shown on screen to a large congregation. Mr. Burt concludes his ministry on June 25. Mr. Pritchard, of College, has accepted a call to labor with church until end of year. Church was delighted to have fellowship with aged sisters, Mrs. Greenwood and Mrs. Pout, who have been unable to attend for some time. Mrs. Thorpe goes into Melbourne Hospital next week. Mrs. Wittock is an inmate of Melbourne Hospital, and her eldest son, Ken, as result of an accident on football field, is also a patient there.

## PUBLIC WITNESS IN W.A.

TWO events in the city of Perth, in recent weeks, have made a lasting impression upon the religious life of the community. They were the visit of General and Mrs. Albert Orsborn, of Salvation Army, and the West Australian Christian Endeavor Convention.

### Salvation Army Congress

Salvationists turned out in full force on occasion of their State Congress, to greet the General and Mrs. Orsborn. Representatives of various religious bodies were invited to be present at a civic reception tendered by the Lord Mayor of Perth. In course of one of the many large gatherings which General Orsborn addressed while in the Western capital, he said that he was on a mission to call Christian people back to a greater realisation of their responsibilities toward God. "Wherever I go," he said, "I find that people have fear, and 'fear hath torment.' What is needed is the right sort of fear—spiritual fear, the fear of God. Jesus found that element of fear in his day, and he bade people, 'Be not afraid. Fear not.'"

### Christian Endeavor Convention

On each of the four nights of the State Christian Endeavor Convention, Wesley church, Perth (which holds approximately 1200) was crowded. Many enthusiastic delegations of country Endeavorers journeyed to city for June long week-end, in order that they might share in the meetings; a time of rich fellowship was enjoyed.

The Convention speaker was Ronald Barnes, of London, a recent arrival in Western Australia, having come from the old country to

minister to the Baptist church, Wagin. Mr. Barnes brought a real note of challenge to the convention gatherings, as he addressed the young people on the theme, "Christian Adventurers," and urged his hearers to meet the need of the great adventurer, Jesus Christ.

The concluding missionary rally was a source of blessing to all who were privileged to attend.

### Liquor on Football Grounds.

A matter that has been receiving a considerable amount of publicity in the local daily press is the attempt on the part of the liquor interests to acquire the right to sell beer in open bars on the metropolitan football grounds. For several successive Saturdays permission has been granted by the Licensing Court for the sale of beer at the West Australian Cricket Association Ground, during the progress of league football matches. In an endeavor to counter this, a meeting of protest was called in the Perth Town Hall. Prominent speakers representing churches, Temperance Alliance, and kindred organisations voiced strong objections to stir public conscience. Many people in Perth will be watching with interest the final outcome.

### Overseas Missions.

In most of our churches in the West, June has been a month in which the interests and claims of Overseas Missions have been advocated in preparation for the annual offering on July 2. The task of sending the message of the gospel to lands across the seas is the task of every member in the homeland. The need of India, China and the New Hebrides is greater than ever before. Only a missionary-minded church can hope to survive. Only the world-wide vision of evangelism can stem the tide of modern aggressive paganism. Only the Light of the world can dispel the darkness of Satan. Only the gospel of Christ can meet the need of a world divided and distracted by social, national, and racial problems. The "Macedonian call" has never sounded so clearly as in this 20th century.—Allen G. Elliott.

### ADDRESSES.

V. G. Boettcher (preacher Lowood church, Qld.).—"Glen Rose," Ferndale. Phone 11.

Reg. P. Clark (secretary Malvern-Caulfield church, Vic.).—72 Dent-st., Ashburton. Phone, WM6660.

R. L. Cromie (secretary Fairfield church, Vic.).—36 Bennet-st., Alphington, N.20.

G. T. Fitzgerald (preacher Box Hill church, Vic.).—2 Simpsons-rd., Box Hill, E.11.

C. W. Jackel (preacher Hamilton church, Vic.).—53 Lonsdale-st., Hamilton. Phone 1101.

Horace Kingsbury (preacher Malvern-Caulfield church, Vic.).—725 Dandenong-rd., Malvern.

W. J. Whitehead (secretary, Drumcondra church, Vic.).—Frank-st., Belmont, Geelong.

### WANTED

Copies of Choral Anthems, bound volume No. 1.—Ring U9111.

### ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Accommodation required in quiet home for business girl. Reply, "D.H.M.," c/o Austral Co.

Full board is required by two sisters (24 and 18 years) with Protestant family, preferably in Hawthorn-Camberwell district. Reply to Miss Edna Ronald, 17 View-st., Charlton, Vic.

### GOLDEN WEDDING

FREEMANTLE-LETTS.—Mr. and Mrs. John Freemantle have much pleasure in announcing the 50th anniversary of their wedding, celebrated at church of Christ, Maryborough, on June 27, 1900, by the late W. D. Little. Present address, Eastville.

## DEATHS

**HAINES.**—On June 24, at 24 Nicholson-st., Coburg, in her 79th year, Florence P. S. (McColl), widow of the late James H., loved and loving mother of Flo, Tom (Surrey Hills), Colin (Oakleigh) and Jean; loved mother-in-law of Nell and Beryl; fond grandmother of Jim, Margaret, Eileen, Robert, Bruce, Valerie, Martin and Miriam.

**LEGG.**—On June 21, at 8 Stott-st., Box Hill, passed peacefully away Henry, beloved husband of the late Ellen Alice, loved father of Hugh (dec.), Lucy (Mrs. Hall), Eric (dec.), Ethel (Mrs. Corr), Trevor, Ralph, Mildred (Mrs. Ashley) and Ruth (dec.). Safe in the arms of Jesus.

**LENNOX.**—On June 21, loved eldest brother of Mrs. Buckley, 2 Earl-st., Windsor, aged 78. Some time we'll understand.

**PRATT.**—On June 11, 1950, at Royal Melbourne, Alfred Leonard, 5th Batt., 1st A.I.F., loved fourth son of the late John and Annie Pratt; loving brother of Maggie (Mrs. Freeman, North Fitzroy), William, Norah (Mrs. Rossi), Nellie (Mrs. Andrews), all of Wedderburn, Anthony (dec.), John (dec.), Stanley (Northcote), Heyligar (dec.), Daphne (Mrs. McPherson), Wedderburn. Aged 58 years.

We weep but not despairing,

As thus we see them go,

For the Lord's redeemed ones

Are as white as snow.

—Inserted by his loving sisters and brothers.

## IN MEMORIAM

**AUSTIN.**—In loving memory of our dear mother Sarah, who passed away on June 28, 1948. Treasured memories.

—Inserted by her loved ones.

**BOWMAN** (on active service).—Cherished memories of our dear son and brother, Gunner Alan Bowman, accidentally drowned New Guinea, June 18, 1944.

There is no separation from those we love,

No distance can divide,

For to-day in memory's garden

We still walk side by side.

—Inserted by his loving parents, sisters and brother, Grandview-ave., Dandenong.

**CASSON.**—In loving memory of our dear mother, Isabella, who fell asleep on June 29, 1946, at her residence, Port Melbourne. Ever remembered.

**KESTLE.**—In treasured memory of my dear wife, Sarah Elizabeth, and our loving mother and grandma, who passed away on June 29, 1946.

"Not gone from memory or from love,

But to her Father's home above."

—Inserted by her loving husband, J. H. Kestle, and family.

**THURGOOD.**—A loving tribute to memory of Mrs. E. C. Thurgood, who passed away at Oakleigh on June 18, and for many years a valued worker of the Victorian General Dorcas.

"Until the Easter glory lights the skies,  
Until the dead in Jesus shall arise,  
And he shall come, but not in lowly guise,  
Good-night."

—Inserted by the "General Dorcas."

## COMING EVENTS

**JULY 7.**—Victorian Women's Conference Executive Council will meet at Swanston-st. on Friday, July 7, at 2 p.m. Mr. W. Clay will be the speaker and Mrs. F. Youens will lead the devotional meditation. All ladies welcome.

**JULY 7.**—College of the Bible Students' Annual Concert, Friday, at 8 p.m., Nicholas Hall, Lonsdale-st. Admission 2/-, children half-price.

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# "Thine is the Power"

## PROGRAMME FOR AUGUST

### Call to Worship.

All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn unto Jehovah;

And all the kindreds of the nations shall  
worship before thee.

For the kingdom is Jehovah's;

And he is the ruler over the nations."

Hymn.—No. 66, "We sing the almighty power  
of God."

Prayer.—"O Lord our God, teach us, we be-  
seech thee. Steer thou the vessel of our life  
towards thyself, thou tranquil haven of all  
storm-tossed souls. Show us the course where-  
in we should go. Renew a willing spirit in  
us. Let thy spirit curb our wayward senses,  
and guide and enable us into that which is  
our true good, to keep thy laws, and in all  
our works evermore to rejoice in thy glorious  
and gladdening presence. For thine is the  
glory and praise from all thy saints for ever  
and ever." (A prayer of Basil, 329-379.)

Reading.—Colossians 3: 12-18.

Meditation.—"Thine is the Power." "The  
Power to Rule."

God did not make man a robot, but gave to  
him the gift of free will, which means he can  
either accept or reject the Creator's rule. Be-  
cause mankind has so often rejected God's  
rule, sin with all its sorrows of war, disease,  
poverty and crime has ravaged the world. The  
only way for there to be peace, happiness and  
harmonious living is to be willing subjects of  
the heavenly King.

In times of prosperity God is often for-  
gotten and man's own self-sufficiency seems  
enough. But when faced with tragedy or  
disaster the cry is heard, "If God cares, why  
doesn't he rule and not allow such things to  
happen?" Yet individuals and nations thwart  
God's plans and so bring much needless suf-  
fering on the people. Christian citizens of  
all countries should take seriously their re-  
sponsibility of choosing national leaders who  
will accept God's rule in the affairs of the  
nations if there is to be a lasting peace.

God's power to rule is not minimised because  
we fail to see his rule directed through ex-  
pected channels. When those to whom tasks  
have been entrusted fail in carrying them out,  
then God finds another way. Apparent failure,  
too, can prove an overwhelming triumph.  
When Jesus Christ was crucified on a cross  
it seemed to the disciples that all their hopes  
were ended; instead it has been the most  
vital force that the world has ever known. It  
has been true, also, in the great missionary  
movement. When David Brainard, an early  
missionary to the American Indians, died while  
he was still quite young, many people felt  
he had wasted his life, but one who loved him  
compiled a book of his memoirs which found  
its way to Cambridge University, and a student,  
Henry Martyn, was so influenced by it that  
he decided to devote his life to missionary  
service. When he died a lonely death many  
people inferred that a genius had thrown  
away his life, but God's rule has been ex-  
tended in many places of the earth because  
men and women have been willing to lay  
down their lives.

When God is allowed to rule in the heart  
of a man or woman, it is a channel for his  
power to flow into various avenues of life.  
This is the Christian's opportunity to increase  
the power of God in this materialistic age.

Prayer.—"Almighty and everlasting God, thou  
that hast wrought the redemption of man after  
a miraculous manner, in sending thy only Son  
to fulfil the promises made unto our fathers.  
Open up more and more the knowledge of  
that salvation, that in all places of the earth  
thy truth and power may be made known to  
the intent that all nations may praise, honor  
and glorify thee; through the self-same Son,  
Jesus Christ. Amen."

Hymn.—No. 49, "O Worship the King."

## STATE AUXILIARIES

### Victoria.

At the May meeting Mrs. Washfold, the  
president, was in the chair, and there were  
125 ladies present. This being the first meet-  
ing of the conference year, superintendents  
and committees were present as well as dele-  
gates. Mrs. Turner addressed the gathering,  
taking as her subject "Service." She said that  
service was a responsibility and privilege which  
was costly, if we followed the example of  
Christ. Mrs. C. G. Taylor sang the consecra-  
tion hymn. A welcome was extended to Mrs.  
Williamson, of New Zealand; Mrs. Jackel,  
from Wangaratta.

At the June meeting Mrs. Washfold was in  
the chair. There was an attendance of 107.  
Mrs. S. Neighbour led the devotional medita-  
tion. Mr. Bolduan was the speaker for the  
afternoon, his address being, "This new day  
in Christian Missions." Mrs. W. Waters, the  
secretary of the Sunraysia Women's Confer-  
ence, was present. She brought a greeting,  
and told us that the Sunraysia women had  
decided to raise the money required to furnish  
a ward at the Murrumbidgee Hospital. A  
letter from the Federal Foreign Mission Board  
stated that Miss Gwen Batterham would be  
the new living link of the Victorian Mission  
Bands in place of Miss Foreman. Reports  
were given from Social Service, Hospital, Mis-  
sionary Dept. and Temperance Committees. The  
amount of contributions for this year from  
Mission Bands is £96. The president paid a  
visit to Maryborough, and as well as address-  
ing the meeting, she visited sick folk and shut-  
ins.

### Western Australia.

The monthly meeting was held in the Lake-  
st. hall on Tuesday, May 2. President (Mrs.  
A. G. Elliott) was in the chair. Devotions  
were conducted by Palmyra sisters co-operat-  
ing with Kalgoorlie sisters. Mrs. Mathews  
rendered a solo. Mrs. Rochford read a paper  
entitled "Faith," which had been sent by Kal-  
goorlie sisters. Seventy-nine sisters answered  
the roll call. Financial statement showed a  
balance of £318/17/5. Mrs. Sewell read the  
conference echoes, and brought back to mind  
the highlights of our conference day. A  
district rally is to be held at Victoria Park  
later in the year.

### New South Wales.

Mrs. E. Roffey was leader of the devotional  
session at the monthly meeting of the Women's  
Conference on June 2. The president, Mrs.  
Snow, presided over the business session.  
Mrs. Brogden gave an interesting and informa-  
tive address on "Religious Education in  
Schools." As a result of this address, a class  
is to be formed with Mrs. Brogden as teacher  
to enable women with the necessary qualifica-  
tions to receive training in this field.

### South Australia.

The monthly meeting of the Sisters' Auxiliary  
was held at Grote-st. on June 1. Ninety-four  
were present. The president, Mrs. Hughes,  
welcomed Miss Foreman and Mrs. Coventry  
to the meeting. Obituary superintendent re-  
ported that three sisters, Mrs. Harris (Queens-  
town), Mrs. Brook (Semaphore), and Mrs.  
Sinclair (Coltonville), had received the home  
call. Mrs. Shipway, in the absence of Mrs.  
Green, gave the Home Mission report. Black-  
wood, York, Henley Beach and Dulwich were  
visited during May. Mrs. Trowbridge an-  
nounced that the F.M. committee had visited  
Beulah-rd., Queenstown, Maylands and Edwards-  
town West.

The Overseas Rally was presided over by  
the superintendent, Mrs. Trowbridge. Mrs.

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Coventry gave a greeting and sang a solo in  
the Indian language. Miss Foreman gave the  
address—an interesting description of the work  
of the Dhond Hospital.

Mrs. Trowbridge thanked the two mission-  
aries for their talks, and wished them God's  
blessing in their work.



## THE SOCIAL SIDE OF CONFERENCE

Daphne F. Ashlin, Secretary Women's Federal  
Conference.

SO you're coming to Tasmania, the isle of  
mountains, for Federal Conference! We're  
thrilled to hear it, and will be glad to wel-  
come everyone of you. You've already been  
told that there is plenty of accommodation for  
all, but we just stress it, for we wouldn't like  
you to miss any of the happy time we're go-  
ing to enjoy together.

We have hired the Lord Mayor's courtroom  
at the Hobart Town Hall for the five meals  
we are catering for. Some of the best cooks  
in the Commonwealth live in Tasmania.

The reception to visiting women is to be on  
Friday, October 6, and we are planning for a  
great time of fellowship.

The three outings of conference are: (1)  
Pinnacle and Mt. Wellington, and we hope  
there will be lots of snow about for all those  
who've never seen snow before, also that it  
will be a clear day for the best view you've  
ever seen. (2) Through Kingston to Huonville  
for afternoon tea, and to view the apple  
orchards. (3) The conference picnic at New  
Norfolk. This is a lovely place, 26 miles  
from Hobart, situated in the beautiful Der-  
went Valley.

Apart from all the scenic attractions, we  
trust and pray that God's people meeting in  
Federal Conference in Hobart will together  
experience blessing and fellowship divine.

## FRIENDS OF YOUTH

### NOW IS THE TIME TO TAKE STOCK.

We have splendid stock in boys within our  
brotherhood. Will you during the next few  
weeks take a "Look-in" on your boy's club?  
Will you give your club leaders an armful of  
encouragement or word of thanks? They do  
a mighty fine job—now is the time! The  
Explorer Movement's efficiency campaign is now  
on. Leaders and boys are seeking to fit them-  
selves better for service by bringing Boy-  
Leader-Club Movement to higher levels. Re-  
member, "The high soul climbs the high way,  
the low soul gropes the low." What a joy it is  
to help boys climb! So seek to encourage  
leaders who mould character.

### A WORD TO LEADERS AND YOUNG MEN.

JULY has just what you need in leadership  
training. Remember you must make sure of  
yourself to make sure of the boy.

The Special Course continues with lectures  
on—

July 10, "Anatomy," Dr. W. A. Kemp.

July 24, Demonstration of Muscle Control, Mr.  
Fred Kaye.

July 31, "The Christian Basis for Effective-  
ness," Mr. H. Earle.

Surrey Hills Church of Christ Hall, The  
Avenue (near station), at 8 p.m. sharp. For  
further information ring Cent. 4167.

—W. F. Newham, Chief Explorer.

## DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS,

OCTOBER 22 to 29,

## CHURCH OF CHRIST, NORTH RICHMOND.

All former members and friends are asked  
to keep these dates free.



## Open Forum

### FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS.

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

### RUSSIAN NEWS

**Y**OUR correspondent, W. Graham, Qld., 6/6/50, appears very perturbed re E. C. Hinrichsen's statement of whether it is 16 millions or 32 millions in concentration camps in Russia. Surely anyone with eyes and ears and just ordinary intelligence should be able to quite reasonably believe that these figures may be even greater, considering the many peoples that the Russians have now clamped down under the iron curtain, not mentioning countless thousands the Russians have liquidated of their own and other people. Surely Mr. Graham must know of these facts; does he know that Mr. Hinrichsen has travelled through Russia and seen for himself what goes on!—L. J. Price, Brighton, Vic.

## DISTRICT CONFERENCE

**A**NNUAL sessions of the Eastern District conference were held at Mitcham, Vic., during King's Birthday week-end, June 10, 11 and 12. President of conference, A. Cameron, presided over gatherings. All churches affiliated were well represented. Greetings were received from the sisters' conference. K. Clinton, of Croydon church, sounded a deeply spiritual note in his devotional session on Saturday afternoon. Theme of conference, "Man's World or God's World?" formed basis of addresses of various speakers. G. T. Fitzgerald addressed evening session on Saturday. Conference sermon was given by W. F. Nankivell in Memorial Hall, Mitcham, before a good congregation. On June 12 a bus trip was arranged for the young people to Emerald Lake, and was patronised by a large number who returned to Mitcham church for final meeting of conference, a youth rally, which was addressed by P. R. Thickins. Each address was enjoyed by all. Sisters' conference was held on Monday afternoon, June 12, the president, Mrs. Martin, being in chair. Mrs. C. Thomas, from India, gripped attention of hearers as she told of her experiences. Musical items by Mrs. F. Finger and Miss W. Sandells, and an elocutionary item by Mrs. Nance-Kivell, were appreciated. The following assisted the conference meetings by musical items: Mrs. K. Steele, Miss W. Kelly and Mr. Easton. Election of officers—General conference: President, H. Steele; vice-president, A. Cameron; secretary, R. J. Sandells; treasurer, F. Rogers; auditor, J. Maguire; pianist, Miss B. Lowen; song-leader, P. Jordan. Women's conference: President, Mrs. Sandells; vice-president, Mrs. J. Henwood; secretary, Mrs. A. Handasyde; assist. secretary, Mrs. E. Martin. The next conference is scheduled to be held at Croydon during King's Birthday week-end, 1951.

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### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

Our representative will be travelling from Melbourne to Minyip the first week of July, and will be pleased to discuss any of the above equipment with interested parties from any town within 20 miles radius of the route. Communications should reach the office not later than June 30. Special prices for Churches, Schools, etc.

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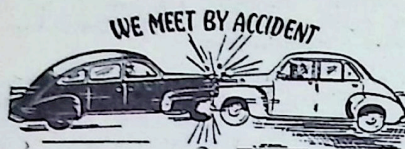
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