

*woolly*

# The Australian Christian

National Weekly Representing Churches of Christ

## To The Unfinished Task

*T*HERE are good reasons for continuing to devote one's life to the ministry of the gospel. Chief among these is the call of Christ. He called Matthew from the receipt of custom, and James and John from their nets, and he made them apostles, and they became life-servants of the gospel.

And the Master calls us. He called the writer from a bread delivery cart, and he has called others from the farm, and others from the school, and others from the carpenter's bench, and others from the grocer's counter, and others from the law or medicine. And he calls to a life-work; he calls to a full-time job.

Then the world is in a bad way. We are faced with a revived paganism; temperance has received a setback; there has been a loosening of morals; suspicions, greed, hypocrisy, selfishness are met with continually. And there is no peace in spite of the great world wars, and the parrot-like cries of politicians and others in connection therewith. Things cannot be put right by diplomacy, or further military preparation, or by a new brand of politics. To put things right, there must be a great moral force that can change men's hearts, and such a force can only be found in the gospel. And that gospel we have been called to preach. And it must be preached, and preached with fervor.

Besides all this, there is the danger of souls being lost for all eternity, "for the wages of sin is death," and those who "obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ" are to be "punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power." And only the gospel can bring to such the way of escape. But to do this, it must be preached, and somebody must preach it. And it must be preached in all the world, and to "every creature." Truly it is a stupendous task, and it calls for whole hearted devotion from all, and whole-time devotion from some.

With full appreciation of the splendid work that has been done by men who have given time to the preaching of the Word after their ordinary work was finished, and those who have filled gaps and undertaken interim ministries while carrying the burden of some secular calling, this article has been written. May the number of such men increase! But it has been written to invite young men to devote their lives to the preaching of the gospel, and to encourage those who, having started in the full-time ministry of the Word, to continue therein till the Master shall say, "It is enough... Come up higher." There is nothing better. Nothing else can help others as much as this.—Thomas Hagger.



# A BURNING FLAME

The story of Thomas Hagger's outstanding ministry and a tribute to his life by the editor.

**THOMAS HAGGER** gave himself to the church, and he worked for the glory of God. His record of unselfish service for over fifty years in the full-time ministry of churches of Christ is written in causes established in most of the States and in lives throughout the Commonwealth.



Thomas Hagger as Pioneer Evangelist.

Born at London in the year 1874, Thomas Hagger was taken by his parents to live in the great city of New York, U.S.A. He spent three years in America. At the age of twelve years he journeyed in 1886 with his parents to Australia. Eventually the family took up residence at Williamstown, Victoria.

*At Williamstown, Vic.*

Up to this time the lad had been brought up according to the strict rules of the Church of England. At Williamstown he came into contact with D. Macallister, a pioneer of the New Testament church, who took a special interest in young men, a policy that produced much good for the kingdom of God. At the age of fifteen years, Thomas Hagger was baptised and brought into the fellowship of a brotherhood of Christians he loved. Throughout his youthful years he manifested the same zeal for Christ that he maintained throughout the years. He was even then a burning flame.

The family moved to Prahran, and exercised considerable influence. Later they moved to South Yarra, and were amongst the foundation members.

## Years of Preparation

During these years the young man was busy preparing himself for service. He attended the Laing College and received a secular training that served him well. Then in a training class conducted by W. C. Morro, one of the American preachers who took an interest in training young men for practical Christian service and the minister of the church at Lygon-st., Carlton, Vic., Thomas Hagger gained help. It has been said that Mr. Hagger was not a trained man. But that cannot be sustained. As he said himself, he had to get his training the hard way, and he wished he had had the opportunities now offered young men at Bible colleges.

## Home Mission Preacher

On July 21, 1895, Thomas Hagger commenced his work as a full-time preacher in the town of Echuca. He had been sent north by the Victorian Home Mission Committee to work a very large district extending from Kyabram to Mystic Park and Banjeroop, and then down to Wedderburn. There were eight churches in the district when he started, but some were only meetings of eight or nine members in homes. Soon five other household congregations were added to the circuit.

In carrying out his work, he travelled hundreds of miles with a horse and buggy, and afterwards on a push bicycle. The gospel was preached in the open air, in farm houses, in barns, in hired halls, in chapels, and where ever a few could be gathered. Within two years and two months 100 souls confessed Christ. "Those were great days," he wrote, "and loyal and faithful were many of those who were found in the churches."

## North Richmond

In the early period of 1898 Thomas Hagger agreed to labor with the church at North Richmond. He commenced his services on Aug. 1. At that time the membership was 87. By 1903 the number on the roll had been increased to 370. In the "Jubilee History" it was recorded that the chapel became too small for the large Sunday school of 350 scholars and 30 teachers and the crowded gospel services. The morning meeting for worship became one of the largest in Melbourne. By that time North Richmond was one of the most successful of churches of Christ in Victoria.

## Tent Missions

After three and a half years of encouraging work at North Richmond, Mr. Hagger went to Western Australia and was engaged in mission work for three years. D. A. Ewers, writing of the tent mission at Perth, reported that, on Sunday nights, services were crowded out with 500 in the tent. There were over 40 confessions. At Fremantle, in January, 1903, the missionary was again successful. At Subiaco 100 decided for Christ within two months. In May Mr. Hagger commenced a ministry with the church at Fremantle, during which the membership was raised to 305.

After a term in N.S.W. he went, in 1909, to the Centenary Celebrations of the Restoration Movement at Pittsburg, U.S.A. On his return homeward he spent some time in Great Britain conducting mission services. On his arrival in Victoria he was invited to take charge of home missions and to conduct tent missions. Associated with our much esteemed brother, W. H. Clay, he continued his successful career in evangelism.

## City Minister

Mr. Hagger then commenced a period of settled ministries in city churches. At first he was at Grote-st., Adelaide, S.A., where he ministered for five years, then went on to Western Australia, and he gave able leadership at Lake-st., Perth (1922-27), and in the general activities of the brotherhood.

Returning to the active work associated with home missions, Mr. Hagger went to New South Wales as organiser. He remained in that State for nine years, before attending the World Convention of Churches of Christ at Leicester, England. In the two years' absence from Australia, he visited America and conducted missions in various parts of the Dominion of New Zealand.

Called to take up work at Gardiner, Vic., he responded with his usual enthusiasm, and for nine years he gave of his best, besides enriching other churches with brief missions.

## Final Years

Then, looking to years of retirement, he sought a smaller field, but his restless nature would not allow him to be idle. He became a home mission preacher at Frankston. Always a pioneer, he saw opportunities for development in the Mornington Peninsula. Isolated brethren were organised into a church at Moorooduc, and scattered brethren at Mornington linked into the fellowship of the circuit of churches in that area.

At a crowded gathering last year in the Lygon-st. chapel, brethren honored Mr. and Mrs. Hagger for their years of outstanding service so humbly rendered to Christ. It was a very delightful occasion, and we know it brought joy to the hearts of the two guests. Since then sickness hindered Mr. Hagger undertaking active service. He did find time to write several articles for "The Australian Christian," in which he urged his friends to remain faithful to the plea he loved.

ful to the plea he loved.

Throughout the years he was ably supported by Mrs. Hagger, who was a constant companion in his labors for the Lord. Without Mrs. Hagger's help and encouragement, he wrote, "I would not have been able to have continued until now." (1945.)

In his message to his brethren on the occasion of his fiftieth anniversary in the full-time ministry, he said, "If I were to have these fifty years over again, and know as much as I know now, I would again be a preacher."

We thank God for Thomas Hagger, and pray that many like him will be raised to continue to advocate the claims of churches of Christ as ably and as successfully as he did.



## Funeral Services

ON the afternoon of Friday, August 25, 1950, in the chapel at Gardiner, Vic., a large gathering of people met for the funeral service of the late Thomas Hagger. The representative nature of the congregation was evidence, not only of the esteem and affection in which our brother was held, but of his very wide interests in the work of the kingdom of God. Friends from far and near, within and beyond the circle of our own brotherhood, were present.

The service, planned in accordance with the wishes of our brother, was led by R. C. Bolduan, minister of church at Gardiner. It was with the church at Gardiner that Mr. Hagger enjoyed his longest ministry. Furthermore, it was to this district he came when he retired. His subsequent association with the church, as a member and an elder, was one of mutual joy and encouragement.

The hymns used in the service, "We love the place, O God," and "Was there ever kindest Shepherd?" were among his favorites. K. A. Jones led in prayer. W. A. Wigney read the scripture lesson. E. L. Williams gave the address.

Following the church service, a large assembly in the Box Hill cemetery paid a last tribute to the life, work and memory of this faithful servant of Christ. A short, simple service was conducted by R. C. Bolduan. A. B. Withers, president of the Victorian Conference, spoke. R. Enniss led in final prayer and benediction.

"The flickering of a great light dying down is sad, but nothing can extinguish what it has kindled."

## Spheres of Service

SOME OF THOMAS HAGGER'S ACTIVITIES.

- Federal Foreign Mission Committee-man.
- Home Mission Preacher.
- Evangelist.
- Missioner.
- Organiser of Home Missions.
- College Teacher.
- Member of College Board.
- Writer of Tracts.
- A Friend to Young and Old.



# Need for a Prophetic Word

CERTAIN notable preachers were asked some years ago to state what they would include in a sermon, if it were the last they could give before dying. The preachers recognised that many small details would have to be by-passed so that only the few great truths could be included. There were many interesting replies, but most declared they would urge men to escape from the wrath to come and find Jesus as the Saviour. If we remember correctly, the stress was upon personal and individual salvation. The world was pictured to be like John Bunyan's "City of Destruction" from which men must escape, leaving the wicked to their fate. There was no thought given to the need of saving the "City of Destruction" and of turning it into a realm of the kingdom of God.

## I.

THE type of preaching that stresses the need of escaping from the world has much to commend it, provided it does not suggest that the world must be left to its terrible fate.

We believe there is need for a strong warning to be sounded out from the pulpits. An effective sermon must contain a note of judgment on sin. People can get self-satisfied: they can drift into a "fool's paradise" and cry: "Peace, peace," when there is no peace. Like Samson, who allowed himself to fall a victim of a sinful woman, and was not aware that his strength had departed from him, many drift into sin and are not conscious that they have been robbed of moral and spiritual strength, until a crisis is upon them.

The ease and comfort that settled on Europe, when men forgot the warnings of God, has brought forth a terrible harvest of tragic sorrow. Most of us in Australia have no idea of the horrors visited upon millions who came under the shadow of war-clouds. Warnings that were sounded forth by preachers and reformers were ignored. The drift from the church and the teachings of Christ had their consequences in deeds too terrible to relate. Even now the cup of bitterness is full for many. Instead of hope there is despair; instead of love there is hatred; instead of charity there is selfishness. We should like to hear again some ancient Hebrew prophet calling upon the nations to repent lest they perish. The danger threatening Australia is in the apathy bred by our good fortunes. Being so far removed from the festering sores of humanity, we think we can escape indefinitely.

Our Prime Minister, after his tour of the world, has returned to warn us against foes who attack, not so much the body, as the spirit. The rise of materialistic atheism is a threat to world peace and to the harmony within the community. Because the church has not always been a champion of the rights of the people, and has often stood on the side of the privileged, the door has been opened for false teachers to enter the nation and to exploit social inequality and economic distress, for their own ends. As Jesus identified himself with the poor and the outcaste, and sought to win them into the kingdom, so the church must dare to take their side in the battle of life. This does not mean that the church must be out to improve merely the material side of life; the church must go beyond that and show how spiritual revival could create material wealth and abolish poverty.

A spiritually strong community could abolish the waste that goes on to meet the desires for alcohol, tobacco, gambling and vain dress. We are not taking up a Puritanical attitude. We are not now saying that such indulgences are sinful. We are indicating that people can live well without them, and perhaps be happier. We are also saying that the food, energy and time lost in their manufacture could go a long way toward abolishing poverty, slums and ig-

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norance within the community. We do not expect that our words will make any difference to the attitude of people toward these indulgences. However, we are pointing to a fact that ought not to be overlooked. As a people we have been poor stewards of the wealth God has provided us. If we had made better use of these gifts, we could have abolished abuses and unjust inequalities, raised the standard of health and education, and provided social services to banish insecurity.

## II.

BECAUSE we are not ready, as a people and a nation, to make the sacrifices needed, we are opening the door to disaster. After all, what is needed to meet the situation would not involve us in much sacrifice—perhaps only these luxuries that affect our health and disturb our peace of mind; we may be better, in every way, without them.

We can see that much that is amiss in our community could be set right with very little real sacrifice on the part of the community. Why do men and women refuse to act benevolently to others, and make the adjustments needed? The reason goes much deeper than their use of alcohol and their indulgence in gambling, etc. Why do men waste money on such habits? The psychologist would say it is a means of escape, or it provides the hope of an escape, from the struggle of life. The reason why men and women look for such methods of escape is because of their failure to adjust themselves to the ways of God and their fellows. Behind our selfishness and our unwillingness to make adjustments to improve the lot of others and the community is man's failure to know and to love God with all his heart and his neighbor as himself.

The foolish attitude that men are taking up with regard to the church and Christ's kingdom, is bringing them to the brink of another disaster. We must dare to be prophetic; that is, to speak as the prophets of God, warning men of the judgment coming on the nations because of sin. We can be prophetic, too, by pointing out that, if the nations repent there could come times of refreshing and prosperity such as people have never known. Modern science, linked to the will of men devoted to God, could introduce the golden age.



## IN PRAISE OF THOMAS HAGGER

THOMAS HAGGER was identified with churches of Christ in Australia for more than sixty years. For over fifty years he was a preacher, giving sacrificial service for the kingdom. During his associations with the Restoration Movement in Australia, he saw considerable growth. Within his lifetime the numerical increase was fourfold. Work in overseas missions, in youth departments, social service homes, colleges and in aborigines missions also developed. These advances have been due largely to zealous men like Thos. Hagger. They had an ideal to fulfil and a vision to make real.

When these pioneers preached, they left no doubts as to where they stood with regard to God's word and the movement with which they were identified. Their love and zeal for the kingdom of God made them worthy builders.

With the passing of our brother to his reward, we are led to stress the need for others to follow, and to take up the tasks he has laid down. Churches need preachers who will emphasise the teachings of the New Testament church. The unity of God's people on the simple basis of New Testament teaching is still vital to the church and the world.

We praise God for the life and memory of Thomas Hagger, and pray that God will raise men to take his place.



# Progress in Social Service

● *W. H. Clay reports on social service work being achieved in Victoria.*

THE properties at Murrumbidgee are taking shape, and what they will be like when ready for occupation is beginning to appear. When, is still uncertain. Even the contractors are unable to name a month. It may be November, but if this is not possible, the opening of the home must be postponed till the New Year. Already the homes are receiving favorable comment. The Government, the Hospitals and Charities Commission, and the churches are noting our progress. It is certain that the opening will mark an auspicious occasion in the history of churches of Christ.

The Oakleigh Home is to receive an overhaul, and an extensive programme of additions and alterations is soon to begin. The set-up of our homes, hostel and nursing home is regarded by the authorities as being a model for future institutions of this kind.

## *Deaths at the Home*

During the past month two guests, Mrs. Rowlands, 93, and Mrs. S. Jenkinson, 87, have been taken from us. Both were bedridden for some months, and their transition, though sad, was a relief to their tired bodies. The long period of nursing required for these and others of recent months, provides an excellent reason for the Nursing Home. To the credit of matron and staff, they have accepted the added responsibility uncomplainingly and with cheerfulness.

## *The Times in Which We Live*

The times in which we live are, perhaps, such as were never before experienced. On all sides there are signs which cause us to pause in our planning and consider our ways. To many a collapse of our civilisation appears to be inevitable. It is certain that a world crisis is developing. "Men's hearts are failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." There are many, on the other hand, who are wilfully blind to the "lowering clouds" and deaf to the warnings of the word of God. Godlessness is on the increase and wickedness is on every hand. The recent municipal elections in the city and country reveal that the people have an increasing disregard for character when selecting leaders. In few cases only are the marks of goodness and sobriety recognised. A vote of the people taken in several municipalities and country towns has shown a desire to indulge the appetite for sport on the Lord's day. Drink, and those who advocate it, seems to be on the increase. Laws relating to the sale of liquor are violated with impunity, and our legislators who made the laws provide the means by which they may be evaded. Thousands of permits are issued for sales of liquor during prohibited hours, and it seems that the power of money is greater than ever. How money, and those who possess it in plenty, influence our lives is a story published only in books that are banned. The war in Korea has started trouble with such international consequences none dares limit. How far God's people are to become involved and affected is yet another question none can answer. To us, however, who are the children of God, our course is clearly defined and our pledge is given, "We will be true to him till death."

## *Faithful C.F.A. Agents*

Miss Robins, of Lygon-st., Carlton, church, who was called to her heavenly reward a few weeks ago, was the C.F.A. agent in that church for 11 years, and made this service her special concern. Although handicapped by a physical infirmity, she made it possible to do the work as unto the Lord. Whenever possible she attended the meetings of the association, and

could always be depended upon to attend the meetings held in her own church.

Miss Yvonne Tate, of Bentleigh, owing to her removal to Rye, has been compelled to relinquish her agency. Yvonne, on coming to accept Jesus as her Saviour, found C.F.A. provided an opportunity for service. She is not a physically well young woman, but with the assistance of her parents she did an excellent job. We record our highest appreciation of the service rendered by both these sisters.

## *The Challenge of Progress*

Progress marks growth and growth demands preparation. When it catches us unprepared there is confusion and, like the flood tide, when not accepted, it leaves us perhaps never to return. We have in mind a huge business in Melbourne which has sprung from a humble beginning. Its founder saw the possibilities. In a remarkable way he began to prepare for enlargement. As he advanced his horizons seemed to widen, but he saw in them a challenge and moved toward them. He could have refused to go any further, but the challenge was too insistent for him. A one-man shop, a bigger shop, another shop and an enlargement, another location, a city emporium, and in a generation, a business rivalling all others, is an established fact. Where it is to end is only a matter of conjecture.

## *Challenge to Church*

We are convinced that what has happened in the business world can happen in the church, and the only thing that can bar progress is the lack of courage to accept the challenge. Need we ask what the challenge is? We know only too well that it is to our faith, and to our willingness to go forward regardless of the difficulties and obstructions we will meet. These should not prevent, but should spur us on to achievement.

## *Progress of Social Service Activities*

Without boasting, unless it is in the goodness of God, we marvel at the accomplishments of past years. The progress has been the challenge and still is. If our faith fails us, quite naturally, we progress no further. At times we are found trembling at the possibilities. What if reverse is just around the corner? What if persons fail? A God-forgetting people may allow such forebodings to hinder them, but not a God-honoring people.

"DEAR Lord, I give myself to thee  
Without reserve.

I will not hold back aught to-night,  
My love, my friendship, in thy sight;  
Do thou remake for service bright;  
My all for thee.

"No longer will I shun the cross,  
With all its shame.

I choose the hard, the stern, the real;  
The path of Christ, for woe or weal;  
My all for thee."

# British Churches Annual Conference

*G. J. Hammond Writes an Interesting Account of Meetings.*

THE annual conference of British churches just concluded has well maintained the high level of preceding years. More than three hundred registrations were received from outside the conference area, and brethren from Merseyside (the conference was held at Liverpool) backed up months of preparation with splendid support.

It was a pleasure to welcome visitors from overseas, including Spencer P. Austin, fraternal delegate from U.S.A., and Harold Dickens, Rochester, N.Y. Visitors from "down under" included Mr. and Mrs. C. Verco, Mrs. Webb, Mrs. Ketner and Miss Cemm, all of Australia; and Mr. Truman, of New Zealand.

Dr. and Mrs. Chen, the first nationals from Siam to attend a British conference, and Jean Tinto, on furlough from Nyasaland, were also present.

The president of conference, Arthur L. Brown, tutor at Overdale College, was inducted on Monday morning, with F. S. King, vice-president. A civic welcome was given by H. D. Longbottom, who combines the office of Lord Mayor of Liverpool with the ministry of the Protestant Reformed Church of that city. Leaders from the free churches also gave a welcome.

The Home Missions Committee reported a decrease in total membership, due largely to revision of church rolls, which is one result of the year of inner mission. This is offset by an increase of Sunday school teachers and scholars, reported by the Sunday School and Youth Committee.

The Training Committee reported a good year at college, and announced that, of the £2500 target for the new college, half had already been received.

The Missionary Committee spoke of great opportunities in India, Africa and Siam. Victor Smith, ordained at conference, is sailing for Africa with his wife and two-year-old son. A deficit balance of £3000 restricts the missionary committee's activities, though a record offering of £1400 was received at the missionary tea. Dr. Chen has received from an anonymous donor a portable X-ray set.

The Social Questions Committee sponsored a resolution on race relations with special reference to South Africa, which conference approved.

The Central Council submitted a resolution urging closer co-operation with Baptist churches in order to strengthen the witness against infant baptism. Representative Baptist and churches of Christ leaders recognise that there is no possibility of organic union between the two bodies, due to the fact that the Baptist Union includes both "closed" and "open" membership churches.

At a service of dedication to the Crusade of Christian Witness, the churches embarked upon the outer mission which is to occupy the next three years.

Richmond Baptist chapel, in which the conference met, seating 1000 people, was packed to capacity for the evening rallies. Speakers had been briefed to deal with some phase of the conference theme: "The Crusade of Christian Witness."

Spencer P. Austin set the pace and the standard on Sunday evening as he spoke of the mission of churches of Christ. Mrs. Gray and G. J. Hammond spoke of the church's mission at home. Victor Smith and G. Norton, secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, dealt with the church's world-wide mission. R. G. Barelay and J. Lamping spoke of the church and youth, and at the final rally D. Black, Miss Segain, E. Woolrich and W. Lister spoke of dedication to the mission.



# Over to Pentecost

*A. Anderson's Story of a Trip in Launch.*

UP at 5 a.m. and on beach at Ndui-Ndui by 6 a.m., ready for the sixty-odd mile trip to Ranmawat. The new launch, "Grace," was riding at anchor, and we were soon aboard. Our full complement on the launch was not large—two Pentecost men, three boys, Mr. Smith and myself. We were under way at 6.25 a.m.

The sea to Lolowai, a distance of twenty miles, was good and we made good progress—average about seven miles per hour, one hour's travelling using approximately one gallon of petrol. With petrol at about 5/- per gallon landed here the launch upkeep is not small. Nearing Lolowai, we came across the "Tamatea," a small trading schooner. Pulling alongside, Captain Hamilton and his wife invited us aboard for morning tea. The half hour break and cup of tea proved a good relaxation.

From Lolowai, it is usual to cut across the open sea to the south-western tip of Maewo, and thence across the Patterson Passage to Pentecost. Mr. Smith directed the launch into the open sea, hoping to carry out the usual procedure. After a half hour of battling against wind and tide, a decision was made to return to Lolowai and anchor. Mr. Smith felt even if we reached Maewo, according to direction taken twelve miles away, the Patterson Passage, five to seven miles across, would be risky and it would have meant staying off Maewo the rest of the day and probably all night. The white horses, further out from where we turned round, did not encourage proceeding. Our return to the calm waters of Lolowai Bay was uneventful, since we were helped along by wind and tide.

We were hospitably welcomed at Lolowai by two nursing sisters of the Melanesian Mission. These folk, being the nearest missionary neighbors to our mission, are very friendly and have contact as opportunity permits. A pleasant day was spent looking round their hospital and seeing the girls' school at Torgill.



*Island "Bush Fellow."*

*By contrasting this man with Christians, we see what Christ can do.*

During the night the wind howled, giving small prospect of setting out on the morrow. At 5.15 Mr. Smith came in and said we could make the attempt at "first light"—a hasty cup of tea and under way by 6 a.m. Again we went in the direction of the south-western tip of Maewo, but after half an hour's hard battling and tossing Mr. Smith again decided on return.

Nearing Lolowai on our return, "Captain" Smith decided to proceed direct across to Maewo, and if successful to come down the lee of the Maewo coast. The sea was very rough and plenty of buffeting occurred, but the 25 ft. launch kept bravely on her course. Coming down the Maewo coast was a welcome change



*Baptisms at Pentecost.*

*Mr. J. Smith is baptising a convert, and is being assisted by native workers.*

after the trip across the open sea. Nearing the point where the passage had to be negotiated, it was seen that a strong tide and heavy wind was blowing through, and the plan under such circumstances is to cut diagonally in the direction of the open sea on the eastern side of the island, and when nearing the north-east coast of Pentecost to swing back towards the north-west corner of the island. We encountered very heavy seas, and it was a battle between the launch and three strong forces—wind, waves and tide. We shipped several seas and the boat was

tossed from side to side and rocked from end to end. The crossing took about 1½ hours, and it was with relief that we neared the north-west point. The four hours down the Pentecost coast to Ranmawat were merely a pleasant cruise after the stormy trip across the passage.

The Psalmist had apparently been in the seas on a small boat, for he specifically mentions, "They that go down to the sea in ships." With more feeling, I judge, John writes: "And there was no more sea"—my sentiments entirely.

Nearing Ranmawat the "boo-boo" sounded and the folk could be seen on the beach forming the welcoming committee. Mrs. Smith waved a hearty welcome, and we went ashore. Handshakes were given to all and sundry who smiled their welcome. From Lolowai the trip had taken seven hours.—A. Anderson.

On July 29 Mr. Anderson wrote advising that he had returned to Aoba after three weeks of happy fellowship on Pentecost. With Mr. Finger, he planned to go to Maewo for about a week, and on return visit the remaining Aoban villages which had not yet been contacted. Returning to Ndui Ndui, where farewell meeting would be held, Messrs. Anderson and Finger had arranged to travel to Santo to call on some groups there. These Christian groups have been formed as the result of home mission work amongst them by the Aoban Christians.

The plane on which the Federal secretary left Santo reached Sydney on Aug. 24. He was entertained at tea by a group of Sydney members. In response to the welcome, Mr. Anderson gave a brief report of his tour of the New Hebrides, and gave some account of the work there. Later he conferred with members of the N.S.W. Foreign Mission Committee. On Saturday, Aug. 26, he left by plane and flew direct to Adelaide.

## POWER IN PRAYER

"There is a place where heaven's restless power

Responsive moves to thine insistent plea;

There is a place, a silent trysting hour,

When God himself descends and fights for thee."

## Introducing The Lord's Supper

*By A. R. Pigdon, of Drumcondra, Victoria.*

### 1. Be Brief and to the Point.

THE president's remarks should be brief and should introduce, or lead, the people's thoughts to the supper. Five minutes should be adequate for this purpose. Many effective presidential remarks are shorter than this. You should try to get the service through so as to call on the preacher by 11.45. Five minutes late in starting and five minutes too long in these remarks can make it nearly 12 o'clock by the time he rises to speak. In choosing your remarks, reject all irrelevant material. Off-the-subject material is nowhere more out of place than here. Your task is to prepare the people's minds to partake of the supper with understanding. Time does not permit wordy utterances which distract rather than focus the mind on Christ's atoning sacrifice. When quoting phrases associated with the supper, see that you quote accurately.

### 2. Selecting Your Material.

(1) The accounts of the institution of the supper, given towards the close of each of the gospels, should be well known, and will provide the inspiration for many talks. Paul's

reference to the supper in 1 Cor. 11 should also be known and used.

(2) Other passages throughout the Bible can provide starting points. E.g., Genesis 28: 16, Isaiah 53: 6, Hebrews 2: 9. There is an inexhaustible field here, but care must be taken to keep the thought relevant and brief.

(3) A portion of hymn may be used, enlarging on it in your own words or associating it with scripture. The hymn prior to the supper should be in line with the thought you wish to present, and may be changed by conferring, in good time, with the organist.

### 3. Prepare Yourself.

The prayerful preparation of your own heart ought not to be omitted. Unless we come in the right attitude and spirit, we are not properly prepared for our task. If Jesus' words in Matthew 5: 23, 24 can be applied to all who partake at the Lord's Table, how much more do they apply to the president!

You may be honored by your fellow-men with the task of presiding at larger and more pretentious gatherings, but none can compare in sacredness and significance with the honor that is yours to preside at the table of the Lord of glory. The humblest gathering of the Lord's people is transformed by the unseen presence of the risen Christ.



# COMMONWEALTH ROUND-UP

## HERE AND THERE

K. W. Barton, preacher at Port Pirie, S.A., after a happy ministry of several years, will conclude his work there at end of year.

On his return from the New Hebrides A. Anderson has brought loving greetings to the Australian churches from missionaries and Christian workers on the islands.

Ira Paternoster (junior) has been called recently to minister with the church at Hill-side, Dayton, Ohio, U.S.A. This church has recently organised its work on the community centre plan.

We learn that Rona, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Reg. P. Clark, of Malvern church, Vic., was married, on Aug. 19, at Croydon, England, to Mr. Alfred Hagger, a nephew of the late Thos. Hagger.

The Victorian Conference Executive, in association with church at Gardiner, Vic., is arranging a brotherhood thanksgiving service in appreciation of the life of the late Thomas Hagger, to be held in Gardiner chapel, Sunday, Sept. 17, at 3 p.m.

W. H. Holloway, who has served on the staff of the British and Foreign Bible Society for the past eleven years as deputationist and later as chief deputationist, was appointed field secretary for Victoria at the half-yearly meetings of the society, held at Bible House, Melbourne, Vic., on Aug. 28.

Ira Paternoster, preacher of North Sydney, and secretary of the N.S.W. Foreign Mission Committee, visited Victoria and South Australia prior to commencing one month's ministry at Launceston, Tas. The first weekend in October will be spent at Mole Creek. He also plans to attend Federal Conference sessions.

Sunday Christian Observance Council, Vic., requires the help of an assistant honorary secretary to share duties with the honorary organiser, W. Gordon Sprigg, who has held the position since 1932. Any young man willing to assist is asked to write a letter to P.O. Box 1562N, G.P.O., Melbourne, C.I., or ring WM1273.

Chaplain L. G. Crisp, who has been on service with R.A.A.F. at Amberley, Qld., for some time, has been posted to Malaya. It is expected he will proceed immediately to his new field. Chaplain Crisp has been a great help to Queensland churches of Christ as well as given careful attention to his duties as an air force chaplain.

About 50 members of preachers' families attended annual social of S.A. Ministers' Wives' Association at Grote-st. on Aug. 25. An enjoyable programme was arranged by committee and conducted by Mr. Marshall. Items were rendered by Judy Marshall, Mr. Robinson, members of Bartlett family and Mr. Cave. A brief family worship session was conducted by Mr. Mathieson after which supper was served. Singing of "Blest be the Tie that Binds" brought a happy evening to a close.

At Albion, Qld., keen interest is being shown in several, recently commenced, church activities. New Young Worshipers' League is encouraging; a number of Sunday school children remain for portion of morning service. About 20 boys, between eight and thirteen years, are receiving training in the Young Explorers' Club, under leadership of Mr. Wright. Weekly choir practices are conducted by Mr. Hack, choirmaster at Ann-st. church. Members of cricket club are preparing for new season commencing in September. At gospel service on Aug. 13, Des. McLucas confessed faith in Christ. Evening service on Aug. 27 was broadcast over station 4KQ. Fellowship group enjoyed a "back to childhood" social on Aug. 25.

Our attention has been drawn to the statement made by Dr. A. J. Saunders about the growth of Disciple churches on the west coast of America. Dr. Saunders suggested that these churches had not made progress in that region, whereas they had made considerable advance in the middle and southern States of America. While the advances have not been as big as brethren there would desire, still the numbers have increased very considerably. In 1932 the membership on rolls of Disciple churches in North and South California was 48,000, but in 1949 the totals had reached 71,000.

The 75th anniversary of the Port Pirie (S.A.) church was celebrated on Aug. 19 and 20. Attendances were good. About 65 attended fellowship and re-union tea on Saturday night, and on Sunday attendances were: morning 50, evening 45. Ladies catered for Saturday tea. The evening programme followed, when G. R. Stirling spoke and a number of musical items were rendered. C. W. McDonald, senior elder, gave some reminiscences. Programme concluded with showing of film, "Faith Triumphant." G. R. Stirling gave morning address. At night speaker was L. Riches. Mr. Riches is a member of churches of Christ and a Member of Parliament. He gave an informative address. K. W. Barton is concluding his ministry at end of year.



*New manse at Nubeena, Tasmania. Mr. and Mrs. Street and younger members of family are shown.*

At meeting of Men's Society at South Yarra, Vic., speaker was Mr. Jungwirth, secretary of Premier's Dept. Church was saddened by death of Mr. Hagger, who was a pioneer of work at South Yarra, the first minister to labor here and first secretary. Mr. Allan has accepted invitation to continue with church until end of year. Attendances have been encouraging in recent weeks. During month Mr. Allan showed film, "The First Easter," to an interested congregation. Bible school has commenced to practise for anniversary, A. Searle being conductor. School raised over £6 for social service. Scholars who sat for scripture examination passed. Church recently received a gift of £100, being legacy from will of late G. A. Drake. Tennis team has won every match for season and first semi-final.

The church at Edwardstown West, S.A., continues to grow. Members have been welcomed into fellowship by letter. Mr. and Mrs. Berry have come from Glenelg. Mrs. Keatch (sen.) has returned home after a long period in hospital. Mr. Squire is still improving, and has been able to attend some services. Prayers of church continue for those still in ill-health, and sympathy is extended to J. Jones and family in loss of his father. Miss Roma Bissett and Don Caudle were married on Aug. 26. In their honor the church gave them a kitchen evening at which appreciation of their service to church and

auxiliaries was expressed and gifts presented. Church enjoyed a tea and evening fellowship with visitors on Aug. 16. This was to celebrate final payment on building debt. Mr. Baker continues to help church with messages. All auxiliaries are doing good work.



## Progress at Whyalla, S.A.

CHURCH continues to flourish under guidance of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts. Bible school is maintaining an average attendance of 115 over past three months, with an all-time high of 130 on Aug. 20. Mr. Simpson, who has been in hospital, is well again. Girls' and boys' clubs have a weekly average of 30. G. R. Stirling, with Mr. Dean, visited church. Before bringing a bright gospel message to a packed chapel, he spoke to school at a basket tea. On Monday Mr. Stirling entertained 115 young people at a happy hour, and later addressed teachers and youth workers. Ladies' Fellowship is doing practical work for native missions.



## Federal College, Glen Iris, Vic.

### SECOND TERMINAL EXAMINATIONS.

#### HONORS LIST.

Apologetics.—R. V. Holmes, J. H. McCormick, E. K. Skillicorn, G. Smith; 3 others passed.  
Old Testament.—K. J. Clinton, J. E. Gough, W. H. Greenwood, I. K. Hull, R. V. Longthorp, Miss S. Seaby, A. L. West; 15 others passed.  
New Testament.—K. J. Clinton, J. E. Gough, I. K. Hull, R. V. Longthorp, A. L. West; 19 others passed.  
New Testament Greek I.—Miss R. Edgell, J. E. Gough, R. S. C. Wilson, A. M. Wood; 3 others passed.  
New Testament Greek II.—L. G. Armstrong, K. J. Clinton, M. D. Roberts, A. B. Titter, A. L. West; 7 others passed.  
New Testament Greek III.—R. V. Holmes, M. D. Keatch, W. C. Kimber, G. Smith; 4 others passed.  
Practical Church Work.—W. H. Greenwood, P. French, J. E. Gough, R. S. C. Wilson; 3 others passed.  
Homiletics I.—P. French, J. E. Gough, Miss S. Seaby, G. W. Wood; 8 others passed.  
Homiletics II.—K. J. Clinton, W. R. Jarmyn, R. V. Longthorp, M. D. Roberts, A. L. West; 7 others passed.  
Homiletics III.—R. V. Holmes, R. C. McKenzie, G. Smith; 5 others passed.  
Church History I.—J. E. Gough, O. M. Jones; 7 others passed.  
Church History II.—L. G. Armstrong, K. J. Clinton, W. R. Jarmyn, R. V. Longthorp, M. D. Roberts, B. Stitt, A. B. Titter, A. L. West; 4 others passed.  
Comparative Religion.—M. D. Keatch, J. H. McCormick, R. C. McKenzie, G. Smith; 5 others passed.  
Christian Doctrine.—R. V. Holmes, W. C. Kimber, Miss S. Seaby; 6 others passed.  
Ethics.—Miss T. M. Bennett, L. G. Cooke, R. V. Holmes, R. C. McKenzie, G. Smith, Miss J. Waterman; 4 others passed.  
Religious Education.—L. G. Armstrong, K. J. Clinton, I. K. Hull, R. V. Longthorp, Miss J. R. Macindoe, M. D. Roberts, Miss S. Seaby, A. B. Titter, A. L. West; 6 others passed.  
Leaving Greek and Roman History.—3 passed.  
Leaving Modern History.—3 passed.  
Leaving Economics.—Miss R. G. Edgell; 2 others passed.  
English Grammar.—B. H. Crowden; 2 others passed.—E. L. Williams, Principal.

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# News of the Churches



## Queensland

**Boonah.**—Excellent results were gained by record number of Sunday school scholars who sat in recent annual scripture examinations; three State first prizes were won. Visit and pictures, shown by Keith Jones, of College of the Bible, were much appreciated. Mr. Leask was preacher at special anniversary services, held at Chinchilla-Wombo Creek circuit. Speaking brethren who gave valued assistance recently were: Graham Gibson, Cliff Jenner, Frank Warwick, Cyril Abbott and Mr. Kissick (representative of British and Foreign Bible Society). Chaplain L. G. Crisp took gospel service on Aug. 20, when church enjoyed fellowship with Mrs. Andersen, Miss Andersen and Miss Hutchison, and Jack McCormick, of the College of the Bible.

## New South Wales

**Kurri Kurri.**—Church held annual business meeting last month. David Stewart presiding. Following officers were elected: Elders, W. Davidson, S. Willetts; deacons, T. Wotherspoon, D. Stewart, A. Wotherspoon, R. Hamilton, R. Hector (treasurer), T. Marley (secretary). Average attendance at communion, 22; total membership 27. Last month a father, mother and son, Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay and Max, confessed faith in Christ, and were baptised and added to church. Next convention will be held at Kurri on Nov. 18. Many brethren have been sick, some being in hospital, but are now progressing. Sympathy is extended to S. Willetts and family, who suffered loss of father.

**Bankstown.**—Services continue in good heart, with stronger attendances at gospel services. Mr. Retchford has been released for a few weeks for purpose of conducting a mission at Inverell, N.S.W. A successful musicale was held on 5th to raise funds for flood victims at Milperra, which suffered severely in recent disastrous flood rains. £30 was aim, but more than double was raised. A cheque was handed to Mayor of Bankstown (Alderman Johnsen) during function. Within past month nine decisions have been made. A special mission, to be held in November, has been planned. One forward move has been the securing of a block of land for a future daughter church in the fast-growing suburb of Pananid.

**Taree.**—The visit paid to Taree church by C. F. McKenzie, minister of the Georgetown church, on Aug. 13, was enjoyed. His messages both at Taree morning and night, and at Wingham, were refreshing. On August 20, D. Grinham, local Baptist minister, spoke in morning. At night Christian Men's Association conducted service, and A. W. Billingham delivered sermon. Samuel Smith, an aged member, was burnt to death on Aug. 9, when his home at Ghinni (Manning River) was destroyed by fire. The funeral service on Aug. 11 was conducted by A. W. Billingham, whilst E. J. and P. G. Saxby, who had known Mr. Smith for about forty years, had a part, bearing testimony to his manner of life.

**Hamilton.**—Church has been glad to welcome into fellowship Tom Fraser, who made the good confession and was baptised recently. A musical interlude, prior to gospel service, is being held once a month. Church is indebted to Mrs. Simpson for obtaining services of many artists to assist. Members have been saddened by death of Dave Williams, and offer sympathy to Mrs. Williams. Church was

happy to have a visit from Mrs. Colin Thomas. Conference president, N. Mathews, and Mrs. Mathews visited church on Aug. 6. Mr. Mathews presided, and L. Dewberry, of Mayfield, was speaker. At night Mr. Paternoster was speaker, and showed films of island work. Margaret Jamieson, of Cardiff, was congratulated on obtaining highest marks in State for teachers' division in scripture examination. Mr. Mackenzie, of Georgetown, and Keith Lynn, of Bush Missionary Society, were speakers. Over recent weeks fellowship with following has been enjoyed: Mrs. E. Hookway, of Gosford; Mr. and Mrs. Fishburn, from Scotland; Mrs. Hillhouse and Mrs. Armstrong, of Lane Cove; Miss Beryl Williams and Mr. and Mrs. Blackburn, from "Woodlands" home, and boys from "Woodlands." On Aug. 20, at 3 p.m., a public rally was held in chapel to hear Mr. Duff-Forbes, of Biblical Research Society. Church appreciates leadership of Mr. Read, whose addresses are inspirational.

## South Australia

**Fullarton.**—Aug. 27 morning service was good. Mr. Peters, a Methodist local preacher, delivered an outstanding message from Old Testament. At gospel meeting B. W. Manning preached powerfully. Many are still away through sickness.

**Prospect.**—Church' annual business meeting was held on August 23. New members of officers' board are: Elders, C. P. Hughes, S. E. M. Riches, S. S. Swift; deacons, J. Dinsdale, H. Laurie, D. A. Lewis; E. Collins and W. T. Spry were elected as life deacons. Attendance was good on morning of Aug. 27. Members of Y.P.S.C.E. assisted at evening service. A paper on loyalty was read by M. Thompson.

**Nailsworth.**—Bible school anniversary on Aug. 20 and 27 was successful, with delightful singing by children, trained by S. Herring. Superintendent, A. Rebbeck, presided. Speakers were R. W. Marshall and B. W. Manning and A. J. Fisher. The prize-giving concert, Aug. 24, was a splendid success. At Young Ladies' Fellowship Mrs. Hunting spoke concerning the Jews, and on Aug. 29 a lady doctor gave a health talk. There has been much sickness in district. Cricket Club held annual meeting on Aug. 25, club membership being mainly local church members.

**Kilburn.**—Twenty members of C.Y.F. visited on Aug. 23 British Tube Mills factory. 10 a.m. Bible school attendance on Aug. 27 was 134, including two new scholars. Loretta Belsham, of Nailsworth, has been added to teaching staff of kindergarten dept. With six teachers from Nailsworth and three from Prospect now regularly assisting, the way is open for a restricted renewal of recruiting amongst new homes now being occupied. Dave McQueen conducted 11.15 a.m. service, when A. J. Ingham welcomed Marie Holdsworth and Betty Sawtell into fellowship, 32 adults and 35 Young Worshipers being present. J.C.E. had attendance of 19. At 7 p.m. a youth service was conducted by A. J. Ingham, all auxiliaries taking part. 30 young folk and 20 adults appreciated solo by Sister C. Kelly and gospel message by Mr. Ingham.

**Adelaide (Grote-st.).**—The midweek prayer meeting is proving helpful to those who attend. H. P. Manning's Bible studies are much appreciated. Sickness keeps many regular attendants away. On Aug. 27 H. P. Manning continued the messages on need for deepening spiritual experiences. Preparations are in hand for anniversary of church. G. R. Stirling presented religious films at conclusion of service on Sunday night.

**Semaphore.**—Annual business meeting of church was held on July 27. Deacons appointed were: P. Brooker, R. Sellick, V. C. Taylor, J. Brooker (secretary), A. Drummond (treasurer). All auxiliaries reported steady progress. Mission Band members met on Aug. 1 to discuss arrangements for anniversary tea. Church anniversary was held on Aug. 13. F. Collins and S. E. Matthews were speakers; Mrs. Hunter and J. Thoday were soloists. Church tea was held on Aug. 13, about 120 being present. At meeting following tea, moving pictures of procession of witness through Pt. Adelaide were shown. Musical items by choir were recorded and played back. Elaine Hayter, previously baptised, has been received into fellowship. Mrs. L. Weeks is improving after a serious operation. Much sickness has affected attendance at services.

## Victoria

**East Malvern.**—There was one confession at gospel meeting on Aug. 6. On 27th Mr. and Mrs. Davidson were received into fellowship from Baptist church, Kew. They have been residing in district for some time and attending services. After several visits from Mr. Stewart, they decided to come into fuller fellowship.

**Carnegie.**—Women's Mission Band held 35th anniversary on Aug. 1. Mrs. Cleland, Women's Conference secretary, was speaker. Mrs. C. Cole was soloist. Representatives were present from other Mission Bands. On Aug. 13, Mrs. Miles was baptised by Mr. Coventry. Owing to illness Mr. Coventry was unable to take services on 20th. R. T. Pittman spoke at 11 a.m., and H. B. Robbins' at 7 p.m. Mrs. Mills, who is a daughter of Ern. Eaton, was received into membership following baptism.

**Bentleigh.**—Under leadership of Miss A. Yewdall, the Good Companions entered in a hand-craft competition, held by the auxiliary; Bentleigh gained silver cup for highest mark. Mr. and Mrs. Watson, snr., have moved to country. At home of Mrs. Eldridge, Ladies' Mission Band held an Australian tea, a happy time being enjoyed. Mr. Russell Thompson, representing British and Foreign Bible Society, was speaker at gospel service on Aug. 20. An "Anglers' Club" is making contact with many homes in district. Mr. Wiltshire has visited many hundreds of homes. By time mission is held in October, a great harvest of souls should result from the many contacted.

**Doncaster.**—On Aug. 1 Beryl McDowell died after a short illness. Pauline Tully won 3rd prize in Division 1 at recent scripture examination. Good Companions had a happy time entertaining mothers on Aug. 11. Triangle Cricket Club, planning for coming season, held annual meeting on 24th. Church 87th anniversary services were held on 27th. Conference president, A. B. Withers, was speaker at morning service. Special collection for building fund amounted to £90/10/-. At a P.S.A. service held same day, G. T. Fitzgerald, of Box Hill, gave an inspiring address. At evening service, F. B. Burt based his message on pioneering faith of early church members. Anthems from choir, solos and an organ recital were enjoyed. Anniversary concert was held on Aug. 29. A musical treat, comprising duets, solos, violin solo, organ recital, quartette, together with several anthems from choir, was appreciated.

**Geelong.**—On Aug. 23 ladies of Women's Conference Temperance Committee came from Melbourne and led Mission Band. This was much appreciated. On Saturday evening Sunday



school held a social, when prizes were awarded for recent Bible school examinations. Many journeyed to Colac on 25th to participate in mission. Services on 27th were much improved. Helpful addresses were given at services by Mr. Anderson. Choir assisted in evening. Church regrets illness of Mr. Smail (choir-leader and organist), and also Mr. Annear, who met with an accident.

Newmarket.—On Aug. 12, Mr. Jack Crichton and Miss Ivy Kerr were united in marriage. Mr. Pritchard, of Ascot Vale, addressed evening service of 13th. Mr. Strack, of Essendon, presided at 11 a.m. service. North-western Y.P. held combined social on 26th. Both tennis teams have won semi-finals. On Aug. 27 Mr. McKenzie addressed services.

Preston.—Women's Fellowship enjoyed a visit from Coburg ladies on Aug. 23, about forty being present. Several members have been laid aside with illness, including F. J. Lang. Mr. Searle continues a faithful ministry with church, giving appreciated messages at services. Attendances in mornings have been good, but in evening small. Men's Society and K.S.P. club combined in a visit to Victorian Railways Control Room; a pleasant evening was enjoyed.

Kyneton.—The ladies have sent cake, biscuits and groceries to Christian Guest Home, Oakleigh, also a parcel to missionaries. During August services have been of a special nature. On 6th the sound film, "Ruth," was presented. Addresses from A. Withers, conf. president, on 13th; W. T. Atkin, for social service on 20th, when films of work were shown; and R. and G. Goudie on 27th were much enjoyed. Many members have been affected by seasonal sickness.

Stawell.—Church has been saddened by death of R. J. Jackson, who passed to his reward on Aug. 14. Church sympathises with Mrs. Jackson and family. Services were well attended on Aug. 20, when B. J. Combridge was speaker in morning. Evening meeting took form of an in memoriam service to Mr. Jackson. At close a married woman stepped forward for reconsecration. Bible school scholars are busy practising for anniversary. Miss C. Hupfield was in hospital for a few days, but is home again. C.E., under leadership of a young people's committee, is showing definite revival.

Frankston-Moorooduc.—F. T. Morgan conducted a week's mission at Red Hill. On several occasions Frankston members attended and enjoyed services. Mr. and Mrs. Morgan and family are on holiday. Speakers during Mr. Morgan's absence have been G. Smith (Red Hill), A. J. McKenzie and F. Adams. On morning of Aug. 27, forty boys from "Menzie's Home" were present, when F. T. Morgan gave a splendid address. At Women's Mission Band Mrs. Morall, of Temperance Committee, gave an informative talk. Mission Bands joined with Chelsea in providing programme and afternoon tea for 40 inmates. Flowers were given to each one present. Some of the wards were visited. Youth Fellowship entertained church members and friends at a social evening. A number of members attended funeral of Thomas Hagger. Sympathy was extended to Mrs. Hagger and family, also to Mrs. Catchpole and Mr. Johns, who have lost dear ones.

Hampton.—Church was indebted to H. B. Robbins, who conducted services on Aug. 6 in absence of Mr. Wilson who was ill. Recent Social Service offering of £15 was a record. A presentation was made to Mrs. Pittman, prior to her departure to America on holiday. A Boys' Explorer Club has been formed, under leadership of G. S. Kruse. Bible school is practising for anniversary, song-leader being H. Maunder. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson, from Gardenvale, have been received into membership. V. Gole and L. Chapinan lead in a discussion at Christian Men's Society on subject: "Is Big Business a Curse or Blessing?" C.M.S. held social evening and raised £4 for grocery stall. Ladies, as guests of girls'

Good Companions' Club, were given a demonstration on cake decorating by Mrs. Edwards. Bible school made a presentation to Miss Val. Penwarne on attaining her majority. A good spirit continues in church, and work of Mr. Wilson is bearing fruit.

Wangaratta.—Services on Aug. 20 were conducted by A. E. Franks as Mr. Baker was ill. Mrs. W. Dagger left hospital after several weeks, on Thursday; Mrs. Macintosh is improving. Mrs. P. Patrick is sick. Bible school is practising for anniversary. Several scholars were successful in recent examinations, Fay Campbell heading list. J.C.E. spent an enjoyable time visiting Baptist J.C.E., and is happy under leadership of Miss Cath Ashmead.

Haven.—F. J. Sherriff was speaker on Aug. 6. Four Sunday school scholars who sat for scripture examination passed. Sunday school children have commenced to practise for anniversary; A. Dyatt, of Horsham, is leading the singing. Mr. Lindsay, of British and Foreign Bible Society, was speaker on Aug. 13. A squash evening was held on Aug. 19. Mr. and Mrs. Stirling led evening with young people of Horsham church, who supplied items and supper; a happy evening was spent. Offering for social service was £1/16/-.

Red Hill.—Mrs. Washfold was speaker at Women's Mission Band on Aug. 9. Mr. Butler preached at morning service of 13th and Mr. Smith at night. Nineteen members of Y.P.S.C.E. met in home of Mrs. A. Salmon on 20th. F. T. Morgan commenced a week of meetings. Solos, etc., were rendered by Mrs. B. Prossor, Mr. and Mrs. Brown, J. Kirby, P. Holmes, Mrs. J. Magelton, Mr. French, R. N. Preedy. Children's "Happy Hour" was conducted by G. Smith and R. N. Preedy. There was one confession on Aug. 25. Mrs. B. Holmes is on holidays at Murray Bridge, S.A. A heater has been installed in chapel. Several from French Island were in meeting on 27th. A young man was baptised by G. Smith.

Warrnambool.—Church has purchased a manse situated at rear of church building. Freewill gifts for manse totalled £240, and an interest-free loan of £300 was over subscribed. Mr. and Mrs. Weir have entered into residence in their new home. The young people conducted recently the evening service; preachers were Norrie Clowes and Ron Weir. Kindergarten held a successful parents' afternoon on Aug. 20. Y.P.S.C.E. is enjoying success, under leadership of Neil Pritchard. Bible school is practising for anniversary, C. R. Le Couteur conducting. Cottage prayer meetings are proving more successful than meetings in chapel. W. T. Atkin and B. J. Combridge have been recent speakers, representing conference departments.

Red Cliffs.—Mr. Lang addressed meetings and Miss M. Kirby rendered a solo at night on Aug. 20. On Aug. 23 a farewell social and presentations were given Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Cameron, Miss Nancy Cameron, Ken Cameron, and Misses Margaret, Dawn and Janice Agars. Mr. and Mrs. Cameron have been members of Red Cliffs church for 25 years. Mr. Cameron was a valued member of the officers' board and secretary of church for some years. Ken Cameron was president of C.E. and also of junior boys' Explorer Club, and Dawn Agars secretary of C.E. All have removed to Mildura. Miss Elinor Cook and Col Wurfel were married in chapel on Aug. 23. On Aug. 24 about forty Endeavorers came from Mildura and conducted C.E. meeting. They were entertained at supper afterwards.

Warragul.—About 90 people were entertained by Young People's Fellowship Club, under leadership of Mr. Quayle. Church appreciates splendid work Mr. Quayle is doing amongst young people. On Aug. 20, in absence of Mr.

Quayle at Morwell, E. J. Waters gave exhortation at morning service. Sunday school is being strengthened by present campaign. Although improvements have been made to vestry to make more room, kindergarten class has filled it to capacity. At gospel service, church was helped by a visit of a young people's team from Baiwyn church of Christ who conducted service. Church was sorry to farewell Mrs. Adams and family, who have gone to Bairnsdale. Suitable presentations were made by Ladies' Guild, Y.P.S.C.E. and church. Mr. Quayle's messages are helpful.



## Obituary

### Mrs. Maude Blanche Downs

AT her residence, 5 Commercial-st., Richmond, S.A., our sister was called home to be with her Lord, whom she had faithfully served for 47 years. Her life was full of ministry to her Master through the years. Christian witness and service of her life brought abundant fruitage in her home, the North Adelaide church and the sisters' conference of this State, of which she had occupied ably the position of president. She also ably acted as convener of catering committee. The North Adelaide church will miss her pleasant countenance. All her family are members of church, viz., Lorna, Mrs. T. P. Lashman, Mrs. W. E. Blackeby and Will. To them, with their loved father (secretary of church) we tender loving sympathy. Let all remember she has just gone on ahead of us to be "with Christ which is far better."—W.B.

### Robert John Jackson

CHURCH at Stawell, Vic., has suffered a great loss in passing of R. J. Jackson, who has been a very faithful member since November, 1929. Mr. Jackson was baptised by Mr. Bates in Moreland Tabernacle, Lancaster, England. He, with his wife, was transferred to church at Stawell. Their son, E. Jackson, was baptised in Stawell, and all three were welcomed into fellowship on Nov. 10, 1929. Mr. Jackson has been secretary of church for about 20 years. During that time he was always loyal to his work. He was an energetic worker in many departments of church. In Bible school he has shown a keen interest, holding the position of secretary for a time and training scholars for anniversary services year by year. His help in singing was always appreciated. He also showed keen interest in the Y.P.S.C.E., encouraging young people to discuss the word of God. He had the ability to exhort church. Members appreciated his straight-forward messages. He was always a great advocate for the prayer life of church, encouraging members to be loyal in prayer. His attendance at church services was an example. When in very indifferent health, he managed to be present morning and evening. This encouraged preacher, and was an example to those who enjoyed far better health. He was loyal to principles of New Testament Christianity, and was happy to be known simply as a Christian. It can be said of him, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord." We commend his loved ones to the care of our heavenly Father.—A.C.M.

### Albert Waters

ON Thursday morning, July 20, Albert Waters was called to heavenly home at age of 78. Failing health had prevented his attendance at services in Lord's house for some four to five years. For many years he attended the church at Hindmarsh, but it was not until the Kellems-Richards mission in Adelaide in 1923 that he "put on Christ in baptism." At this time he was meeting with the brethren at Croydon, where A. E. Forbes was laboring as pastor. First a deacon and then an elder, the life and works of Mr. Waters adorned the



ministry and reflected great credit upon the church. In dealing with the business of the church, his counsel was invariably wise and kind, for he was moved by the spirit of his Master. A generous-hearted man, he ministered to those in need, both within and without the church, but only a few were aware of the extent of his charity. His remains were lovingly laid to rest in the cemetery at Cheltenham, S.A. Services were conducted in home and at the graveside by Ross Graham and W. N. Bartlett. The former paid a well-merited testimony to the worthy Christian life of our departed brother. He leaves a widow, daughter, son-in-law and granddaughter who mourn his loss, but rejoice in the hope of the resurrection and the knowledge that their dear one is safe in the Father's keeping.—W.N.B.

#### BIRTHS

**BURTT** (McGregor).—At St. Omer, to Margaret and Bart, Aug. 28—a daughter, Christine Anne. Both well.

**BROWN** (Westwood).—On August 30, at Dandenong, Vic., to Barbara and Bill—a daughter, Jennifer Jean.  
—80 Langhorne-st., Dandenong.

**PATTERSON** (nee Coventry).—On Aug. 28, at "Devon," Glenhuntly, to Ken and Vera—a daughter (Helen Margaret).

**TONKIN** (nee Park).—At Rockhampton, August 28, to Irene and Don—a son, Wayne. Both well.

#### DEATH

**WILLCOX**.—On Aug. 31, at Dunolly district hospital, Vic., Genevieve Alexandria, loving sister of Bessie, sister-in-law of Ray, dear aunt of Jennifer, Geoffrey and Rosalie. "In God's care."

**WILLCOX**.—On Aug. 31, at Dunolly district hospital, Vic., Genevieve Alexandria, loving daughter of the late Isabella and Charles Willcox, beloved sister of Constance (Mrs. H. W. Freemantle), Raymond (dec., A.I.F.), Vera (Mrs. A. Treble), Roy (dec.), Bessie (Mrs. R. Scott).

#### IN MEMORIAM

**TURNER**.—In memory of mother, Esther Turner, passed away Sept. 9, 1949; also "Flo." (Mabel Florence), passed away July 29, 1943, and Dad (Hector Turner), passed away June 19, 1940. Re-united.  
—Inserted by E. V. Edwards, 52 Warrigal-rd., Surrey Hills.

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#### COMING EVENTS

**SEPTEMBER 13** (Wednesday).—The General Dorcas will meet in Swanston-st. lecture hall from 10.30 a.m. till 4 p.m. All are welcome, but please not change of date for September meeting.

**SEPTEMBER 10**.—Mt. Evelyn 2nd anniversary of purchase of land for church building. Thanksgiving service for clearance of debt, at "Kenarthem." 11 a.m., speaker, F. Lee; 12.45 p.m., dedication of land, on the site, A. H. Pratt.

**SEPTEMBER 11** (Monday).—Churches of Christ Ladies' Choir resumes practice. A full attendance is requested.

#### A THANKSGIVING SERVICE.

A brotherhood thanksgiving service in appreciation of the life of the late brother, Thos. Hagger, will be held at Gardiner church of Christ, Sunday, Sept. 17, at 3 p.m.

#### LYGON STREET, CARLTON.

##### SERVICES FOR SUNDAY, SEPT. 10.

11 a.m., "The Man with a Book in his Hand." (Bible Sunday observance.)

7 p.m., "Fooling, with a Foe at the Gate." (Temperance Sunday observance.)

Preacher, J. Ernest Brooke.

#### SPRING VALE CHURCH OF CHRIST BIBLE SCHOOL 9th ANNIVERSARY SERVICES, SEPTEMBER 10 and 17.

September 10—3 p.m., H. F. Wyatt.

7 p.m., Gordon Bennett.

September 17—3 p.m., K. Patterson.

7 p.m., Major H. J. Smith.

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#### FAIRFIELD SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY, VIC.

Sun., Sept. 17, 3 p.m., Robert Edgar; 7 p.m., T. Fitzgerald.

Sun., Sept. 24, 3 p.m., Kinder and Primary Demonstration; 7 p.m., R. Bethune.

#### COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE, GLEN IRIS. PAST AND PRESENT STUDENTS.

The annual reunion of past and present students of the college will be held at the college on **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**, at 7.45 p.m.

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#### ANNUAL MISSION BAND RALLY.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20.

LYGON STREET CHAPEL.

10.45 a.m., "Interview from our Radio Station." Soloist, Mrs. C. G. Taylor.

1.30 p.m., Speaker, L. J. Gomm; soloist, Mrs. C. A. Ferris; elocutionist, Mrs. L. J. Tully Organist, Miss B. W. Lee.

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#### MORELAND CHURCH OF CHRIST BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 24. SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1.

Demonstration, Wednesday, Oct. 4

#### THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

September 5, 1950

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#### SURREY HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST, DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS, SEPTEMBER 9-17, 1950.

Sat., Sept. 9, Temple Day, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sun., Sept. 10, JUBILEE SUNDAY.

11 a.m., Worship Service, R. Enniss.

2.45 p.m., Bible School Reunion, L. A. Trezise.

5 p.m., Fellowship Tea.

7 p.m., Gospel Service, H. Earle.

Tues., Sept. 12, Young People's Reunion Social, 7.45 p.m., Doug. Nicholls.

Wed., Sept. 13, Women's Day, 2.30 p.m., Mrs. W. F. Nankivell.

Thurs., Sept. 14, Girls' and Young Women's Evening, 7.45, K. Jones.

Fri., Sept. 15, Boys' and Young Men's Get-together with their fathers, 7.30 p.m., J. E. Brooke.

Sun., Sept. 17, "Beginning the New Era."

11 a.m., Worship Service, A. B. Withers.

7 p.m., Gospel Service, E. L. Williams.

Soloist, Miss D. Clark.

#### COBURG BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY

to be held in the

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THURSDAY, SEPT. 21, at 7.45 p.m.



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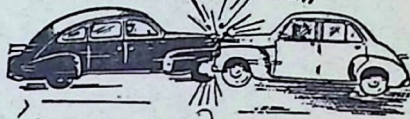
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# Youths' Magazine

## Steadfastness

"Be that shall endure unto the end."  
—Mark 13: 13.

HERE are two stories. They are rather alike and yet are very different. Some time ago I was conducting morning service in a Cornish chapel. I noticed a mother lift her little son on to the seat so that he could stand up during the singing of the hymns and hold on to her arm. One of the hymns was rather a long one, and after three or four verses had been sung the little boy decided to sit down. His mother evidently thought it wise to say nothing to him at the moment. A day or two afterwards I heard the end of the story. When they got home his mother said, "Evan, why did you sit down during that hymn?" And Evan replied, "I'd had enough."

A few months later I had a free Sunday. This gave me the opportunity of going to hear a friend of mine preach in Stockport. In the pew immediately behind me there was a small maiden. Her mother lifted her on to the seat for the hymns, as Evan's mother had lifted him. When we sang she sang, but she sang her own tune to her own words. No one in the neighboring pews seemed either surprised or disturbed, so I concluded they were used to hearing her singing in that way. She was enjoying her singing as we were enjoying ours. When you come to think of it, Jesus heard her as well, for he always listens and understands and is glad. At the end of one of the hymns, when we all stopped singing and sat down, she wanted to go on. The silence was broken by a clear, sweet voice calling out, "More."

"Enough—More." I've been thinking about Evan and that little maiden quite a lot lately. I want to tell you some of my thoughts. "Had enough," "More." The words suggest two very different types of people, the people who give up and the people who go on. You all know them, don't you? In fact, you and I belong to one type or the other. An account of a recent football match stated that in the first half it was anybody's game. Both sides were clever and enthusiastic and the score was one each.

In the second half one side began to grow careless and "go all to pieces." They seemed to be saying, "We've had enough." The other side were saying, "More," and they won the match.

The same kind of thing happens in other spheres. Take the Scouts or the Girl Guides or any other society. Some members are very keen at first, and are eager to qualify themselves for badges or promotion. Gradually a change comes over them. For one reason or another they begin to "slack off" and finally give up altogether. They have "had enough." Others, again, are loyal and determined to be a credit to their company and to themselves. They carry the lofty principles of loyalty to each other and to their great, though unseen, Captain, into all they do and through all the days. They say "More."

Think now of the most important matter of all. You know that ministers and Sunday school teachers, and we hope, parents are all looking forward to and praying for the time when you will decide to love and follow Jesus Christ. When you make that great decision, the greatest you will ever make, you will never turn back, will you?

And yet we know some do give up and we wonder why. Of course, it is not always easy to be loyal to him. We all realise that from the start. To "follow him wherever he goes" demands courage and firm resolution. We shall be tempted to take the easier and more popular course and so avoid being in the minority. But we can never find a satisfactory excuse for reversing our decision to follow Christ. In every walk of life it is those who never give up who succeed. They succeed because they say "More," and mean it. This is supremely true in our Christian life.

The New Testament tells us of a man called Demas. Once he loved Jesus, or at least said he did. Then he began to love those things Jesus did not love, and he drifted away from him, and as far as we know he never came back. That is the saddest of all sad things—he was a deceiver. But Paul, who tells us about Demas, remained steadfast all through his life. Sometimes he found it

difficult, of course, but more often it was easy and always it was happy. When at length Paul came to the end of life's journey, as we all must one day, he said, "I have kept on. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown." Demas said, "I've had enough." Paul said, "More." What shall we say? Jesus is anxious to hear.—W. P. Morris.



## Travelling Seeds

WHAT is it that can ride on horses, and on sheep and cows too?

What is it that can go by parachute through the air?

What is it that can sail on rivers and streams?

And even enter our house without knocking?

The answer is in one word—seeds. In autumn, seeds travel fast and far. That is their busy time.

The dandelion seeds speed along on a perfect parachute; while the birdcock makes seeds with hooks for clinging fast to the coats of animals. Plants growing along the banks of a river often drop their seeds into the water, when they float on the stream to germinate lower down the bank.

Not long ago, when I visited a cloth mill, the manager brought me a handful of wool from Australia containing hundreds of seeds. What a long journey for them!

Now, why does every plant work so hard to spread its seeds? Because it wants to carry on—to provide for the future. That is one of the wonders of creation. And God said, "Behold I have given you every herb bearing seed." Although some of those seeds are so small that we can hardly see them, yet they hold the secret of life—they will carry on next year.

Our Master also is always thinking ahead. That is why he wants to win boys and girls to-day who will work for him in the big world tomorrow. Here is a true story to show the Master's way.

One stormy day in Scotland the boys trooped out of school. "Look!" cried some of the lads, "the burn is in spate." Soon there came another shout, "Johnny Minto has fallen into the water." A boy named Jim heard it just as he reached the bridge. Soon his coat was off and his busy brain had formed a plan. Leaping over, he held on to the bridge with one hand and stretched out with the other ready to hold Johnny. But the

rapid stream pulled Jim into the water as well. He kept a cool head and noticed an overhanging branch. Up shot his free hand. He caught it and held on. Soon many willing hands hauled them ashore. Was it any wonder that the boys made Jim their captain?

But Jesus was watching Jim, too, and thinking of the future. Years after Jim became a missionary in the South Seas. People will long remember Timate of New Guinea. Robert Louis Stevenson, who met him there, said: "He is a man nobody can see and not love."—G. Hambling.



## Indestructible Word

KING JEHOIAKIM thought he could destroy the prophet's message by burning the scroll, but to-day Jeremiah's book is part of our Bible. The way the Bible has been preserved and confirmed through the centuries is a long and interesting one.

Among many discoveries among the ruins of the ancient East and under the sand dunes of Egypt, records have been discovered in stone that confirm the Bible story at many points. In the British Museum in London is a small black stone obelisk discovered about 100 years ago in ancient Nineveh. The pictures cut in this stone centuries ago show tribute being paid by various nations to the King of Assyria, among them Jehu, King of Israel.

It is strange how kings and rulers who have tried to destroy the word of God have failed completely. Other kings who, in vain boasting, had the record of their victories cut in stone, have preserved for us records that prove the historical value of the Bible.



## A Prayer for To-day

FOR morning and the hopes of day,  
For hours to work and hours to play,  
For evening and the duties done,  
For every little battle won.  
For home and those who love us there,  
For friends and kindred everywhere,  
We thank thee, Lord.