fraser

The

Australian Christian

National Weekly Representing Churches of Christ

I AM MUSIC - a soliloquy



"Servant and master am I; servant of those dead, and master of those living. Through me spirits immortal speak the message that makes the world weep, and laugh, and wonder, and worship.

"I tell the story of love, and the story of hate; the story that saves, and the story that damns. I am the incense upon which prayers float to heaven. I am the smoke which palls over the field of battle where men lie dying with me on their lips.

"I am close to the marriage altar, and when the grave opens I stand nearby. I call the wanderer home, I rescue the soul from the depths. I open the lips of lovers and through me the dead whisper to the living.

"One I serve as I serve all, and the king I make my slave as easily as I subject his slave. I speak through the birds of the air, the insects of the field, the crash of waters on rock-ribbed shores, the sighing of wind in the trees, and I am even heard by the soul that knows me in the clatter of wheels on city streets.

"I know no brother, yet all men are my brothers; I am the father of the best that is in me; I am of them, and they are of me; for I am the instrument of God. I AM MUSIC."

-AUTHOR UNKNOWN.

"THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN"

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TEXT FOR THE WEEK.

Let nothing move you as you busy yourselves in the Lord's work. Be sure that nothing you do for him is ever lost or ever wasted .-Cor. 15: 58 (J. B. Phillip's Trans-

(Selected by Hampton church officers, Vic.)

THOUGHT STIMULUS.

I truly believe that if drink could be utterly wiped out of the world to-night, humanity would awake in the morning with more than half its sorrows and sufferings gone.-Hall Caine.

(Selected by C. P. Hughes, S.A.)

Relating Religion to Life

Be still and know that I am God .- Psalm 46: 10.

"There is no music in a rest, but there is the making of music in it. Not without design does God write the music of our lives. Be it ours to learn the tune, and not to be dismayed at the They are not to be slurred over, not to be omitted, not to destroy the melody, not to change the keynote. If we look up, God himself will beat the time for us. With the eye on him, we shall strike the next note full and clear. If we sadly say to ourselves, there is no music in a rest, let us not forget there is the making of music in it. The making of music is often a slow and painful process in this life. How patiently God works to teach us. How long he waits for us to learn the lesson."—John Ruskin.

And no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth.-Rev. 14: 3.

There are songs which can only be learned in the valley. No art can teach them; no master of music can convey them; no rules of voice can make them perfectly sung. Their music is in They are songs of memory, of perthe heart. sonal experience. They bring out their burden from the shadows of the past; they mount on What race that never the wings of yesterday. felt the pains of exile could sing that old Scottish song, "Oh, why left I my hame!" It could only come from the memory of storm and stress, driving the wanderer across many a sea. John says that even in heaven there will be a song that can only he fully sung by the sons of earth-the strain of redemption. Doubtless it is a song of triumph -a hymn of victory to the Christ who has made us free. But the sense of triumph must come from the memory of the chain. No angel, no archangel, can sing it so sweetly as my soul. To sing it as I sing it they must pass through my exile, and this they cannot do. None can learn it but the children of the cross. -Geo. Matheson.

THE INVISIBLE CHOIR

And so, my soul, thou art receiving a music lesson from thy Father. Thou art being educated for the choir invisible. There are parts of the symphony that none can take but thee. There are chords too minor for the angels. There may be heights in the symphony which are beyond thy scale-heights which the angels alone can reach. But there are depths which belong to thee, and can only be touched by thee. Thy Father is training thee for the part the angels cannot sing, and the school is sorrow. I have heard men say that he sends thy sorrow to prove thee; nay, he sends thy sorrow to educate thee, to train thee for the choir invisible. - Geo. Matheson.

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Truth Conveying Music

Unbelief does not praise. Music is the ally of belief. The thought of God, of Christ, and the cross are capable of musical expression. The more of God there is in the composer, the instrumentalist and the singer, the more expressive is that experience. Music is one of the mighty Words are wonderful, but music is factors in human life. more wonderful. It is a medium of communication between God himself speaks to his children through spiritual beings. John Harrington Edwards says, "Hebrew psalmody and Christian hymnology have served as wings to bear the gospel far and wide over the earth. Every upward movement of Christianity has been marked by a fresh outburst of lyric fervor which has added to its expulsive force. This spiritualised art element in evangelism drives out seductive evil by the higher joy and purer ministry of sacred song. Reformation and revival have owed a great measure of their power to the inspiring and truth-conveying aid of music."

God's people are a singing people. Common beliefs, hopes and service tasks prompt Christians to speak to one another in psalms, and hymns, and spiritual songs, and to make melody in their hearts unto the Lord (Eph. 5: 19). For Christian witness to have any real blessing on our fellows, it is not enough that Christians should merely intellectually hold the correct views of doctrine—without which truly the music of a harmonious life would not be possible—but they must translate their knowledge into the music of life in manner, deed and word. The song is not necessarily confined to the lips and the listeners, for Christians are bidden to sing with grace in their hearts—unto the Lord (Col. 3: 16).

Music is a universal language that all can understand. It has a special eloquence for youth. G. Stanley Hall says: "For the average youth there is probably no other such agent for educating the heart to the love of God, home country, and for the whole emotional nature as music." It is unfortunate that the hymnal used in most churches of Christ has so few hymns that fit the special circumstances Music is one of the mightiest factors in of adolescents. human life in its influence on ideas, moods and ideals, the three things so pronounced in adolescents. State youth departments are to be commended for their attempts to select apt hymns for the use of young adults in their camp conferences with a view to building the pattern of life. It is heartening to find the cheap, effervescent type of chorus being replaced by those of a deeper and richer content. The depth of the Christian experience of many young adults will be determined by what they sing.

Since the church does much of its teaching through

Since the church does much of ats teaching through music, and keeps alive spiritual aspirations through the singing of hymns, it must do all in its power to make this ministry effective and value highly those who consecrate their ability to this ministry within the life of the church.

Editorial Comments

SCHOOL ANNIVERSARIES

A Sunday school anniversary is a day of public worship with the parents of the scholars and the many friends of the school; it is not an occasion that entertains by the spectacular, funny stories and jazzy tunes. Dividends of anniversaries are beyond estimate despite the many abuses to which they have been subjected at times. We are fortunate to have teachers in our schools who have kept themselves

apace with the principles of religious education, and have in recent years protected the schools from flagrant abuses, not the least being the eradication of meaningless anniversary hymns, choruses and tunes imposed upon schools by publishing houses, regardless of their teaching values and correctness in relation to Christian doctrine.

A FALSE DISTINCTION

To speak of church and Sunday school is really to suggest a false distinction. The Sunday school is simply one department of the church's activity. While the general church conscience may have awakened to the necessity of suitable buildings, there is a woeful lag in its understanding of adequate lesson material. Teaching methods in State schools and Sunday schools demand more provision for adequate Teachers have always been emscholar lesson material. barrassed by lack of finance for this aspect of their work. Rising costs in the production of lesson material is demanding understanding financial aid. Lesson material does not drop from heaven; it is the result of the diligent and consecrated work of editors and publishers, and the co-operation of State youth departments. The devotion of Christian editors, and their concern to give the schools the best, has enabled them to triumph over difficulties that would appal the purely professional pedogogues. But, why continue to place an almost impossible handicap upon devoted editors and departments? Some churches are known to spend more on the Sunday school picnics than they are willing to pay for twelve months' lesson supplies, hence the plea of the Federal Board of Christian Education for an awakened conscience on the necessity of financing adequate lesson material.

MAGNIFYING THE CHURCH HYMNAL

At a recent communion service, when the congregation "lost" itself in wonder, love and praise, the church hymnal assumed a distinct personality and addressed itself to the mind of the editor in this manner: I am the Church Hymn Book, the product of many minds in many ages. I am a treasury of the spiritual thoughts and record the spiritual pilgrimage of noble souls. Within me reside the elite of the Christian centuries and communions. You may hear them think their thoughts aloud if you keep company with Wed me to the eternal harmonies made vocal in music, and you will find that I will cause your heart to glow with affection; I will stir you to worship God in thanksgiving and adoration; I will challenge you to confess, commune, sur-render and serve God. If I am too clumsy for daily use, imprint my messages on your mind, and I promise to comfort, cheer and befriend you when no one else is nigh. Peruse me! Use me! Reverence me! It it my mission to stimulate the soul and to glorify God. I am the Church Hymnal.

"Not enjoyment and not sorrow
Is our destined end or way:
But to act, that each to-morrow
Finds us further than to-day."
—Henry W. Longfellow.

MUSIC - God is its Author

MAKING WORSHIP CREATIVE THROUGH MUSIC

C. J. Robinson.

Worship is man' response to God. Music, being the natural speech of worship, more than any other of the arts, has power to lead into the "Presence that disturbs." But if it is to achieve its true place in worship, certain principles must be observed.

In the first place, music must be significant. It does not follow that because music stirs the emotions that all music which has this effect is worthy to be used in worship. There are feelings which are sensual and shallow, and there is plenty of cheap music to stir such feelings; but it exerts no influence on the will.

Hymns, anthems and supplementary music should be interpretive of real soul-life, and not a collection of jingling rhymes and pretty cadences. Brian Nibberly in "Religion and Music" says that music "must link the soul to spiritual reality, lifting it from stained earth to the heaven of infinity, eternity and holiness. Good music does not mean elaborate or difficult music, but a voluntary, however simple should be the best that the organist can offer as an invitation to worship. An organist can, by infusing life and color into a hymn or anthem, "convert a dull monotony into a rapturuous magnificat.

Then music must be appropriate. Things good in themselves are not always good in the wrong place. Operatic music is scarcely appropriate as an invitation to prayer and communion. Music in wor-

ship has an end far beyond that of satisfying our sense of the beautiful. Too often it is dismissed as a matter of taste. Our thoughts of God, and our devotion to his service are very much shaped by the quality of our praise. The hymns we sing, which are the most common form of music in worship ought to be sincere, and real to the singer, expressing his own convictions and experiences in language simple but beyond his own capacity to utter.

Finally, music must be worthy. To worship the Lord in the beauty holiness can never mean to worship him in the ugliness of everything else. What outrages everything else. What outrages have been condoned in churches in the name of popularity! It should be the feelings of the congregation finding expression in praise, not the opinions of a few experts, but to keep praise unsullied is the duty and privilege or every worshipper. We ought, therefore, to purge our worship of all that is commonplace and vulgar. Through the centuries the church has accumulated a store of worthy music and praise, and it is inexplicable that, with this treasure, so much that is unworthy of of God is used. Are we realising that praise is the central act of worship and not something to drift through indifferently? Does the stranger gather the impression that we are obsessed with the greatness of our faith? The true Christian dare not worship unworthily. In the music of his worship is the enrichment of divine grace.

SPIRITUAL VALUES MADE VOCAL

Ronald R. Pitkin.

The connection of religion and music has been so naturally accepted by the masses, as to be almost a fact taken for granted—since religion is so generally interpreted in terms of worship, and worship is so widely expressed in music, the connection of the two seems in evitable. It is interesting to note that the ancients placed music as part of their religious ceremonies—it colored their rites and ritual, and provided a stimulus for their national progress and culture.

Music has acted as a creative agent within the life of men, and the progress of the church. It has helped men to worship their God, to express their love for him, and to reach out towards spiritual planes. The spiritual factor of music calls for elevation of the mind, purity of soul, and love of the good, true, and the beautiful. Beethoven said, "Music is the medium between the spiritual and the realistic life."

One of the fascinating mysteries of life, if it is a mystery, is the relation of sound to thought. This wonderful phenomenon has been developed by the human spirit until the present stage has been reached, wherein man has expressed his deepest thoughts and feelings in rhythm and harmony, and in musical works of such soulstirring beauty as Handel's "Messiah," and Stainer's "Crucifixion." Music is a universal language which all men may use—a symbol of unity—a means to help men find God; it brings people, separated by distance and States, within reach of the sympathy of their fellowmen; it draws men together, and serves the kingdom of God by creating spiritual values.

I am sure that we all too often fail to realise the tremendous contribution which music makes towards deepening the spirit of our church worship, and our own individual Christian experience. I deplore the fact that many churches do not strive to cultivate a balanced taste for the best music available, and that numbers of sincere Christians forget to wholeheartedly join in the singing of hymns at our services.

Because of the undoubted power which music possesses, and its emphatic influence on the mind and soul of man, I would exhort every member of the brotherhood to try and cultivate a true appreciation of its help and significance in private and public worship. Man himself is not only influenced by this inspiring art, but can in turn point his fellows to the richer fields of Christian service through the medium of music.

Don't let us listen to church music or the singing of hymns because we have to or because it is the "usual thing" or a pleasant pastime, but let us open our hearts and minds to the inward flow of the positive power of harmony; yet our lives thus be enriched and our spiritual fervor revitalised, for the sake of the kingdom of God.

"O come, let us sing unto the Lord, Let us make a joyful noise to the Rock

Of our salvation."

"I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving."

"I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also."

IN PRAISE OF ORGANISTS

Alison Verco.

What is your picture of on organist? The scholarly musician at the console of a huge organ, blending its many voices with those of the cathedral choir into living praise? The slick wurlitzer wizard seeking new tricks to play with his shimmering rhythm, or the worried farmer's wife, struggling with the asthmatic reed-organ in a small church, one eye on the wriggling two-year-old with dad and the other on a tune that usually proves to have one more sharp or flat than she noticed?

Our praise is intended for all who are organists to the glory of God and the helping of men. The long procession begins centuries ago, for very early pictures show organs with keys so wide that a whole fist was used to play them and bellows worked treadmill fashion by six men. By the time Queen Elizabeth died, having found pleasure in playing the virginals—the tiny, tinkling forerunner of spinet, harpsichord and finally piano-organs were nearing their complete form, and capable of great beauty and brilliance. While viols, weak-toned and crudely-played, could do little more than play simple tunes, organists were finding the way from vocal style—interweaving of melodies—to an understanding of harmony and a style of composition suited to the keyboard.

From the Gabrielis, organists of St. Mark's in Venice, and Frescobaldi at St. Peter's in Rome, the art spread northward. German organists, Scheidt, Froberger, Pachelbel and Reinken, and the Danish Buxtehude each added more to organ playing. Then came Johann Sebastian Bach, greatest of all church organists. His duties at the Thomaskirche in Leipzig were typical of the work of an organist at the time. Beside the actual playing and direction of the choir in services, he must compose music for those services, train the choir, and supervise the education of the

boys in the choir-school. Bach's genius was such that he not only left us a tremendous amount of the finest choral and organ music, but also much that played a great part in the development of piano, violin and orchestral music. He earned for himself lasting praise, but wrote on each composition, "To God alone be the glory."

Other great composers who were organists—Handel, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Cesar Franck—compel our praise. Many whose names are less familiar are equally worthy. In comparative obscurity they spent faithful lives shaping the musical taste of their communities, teaching the children, leading the people through music to receive the word of God and reflect upon it. Without these men our hymn-blooks would be devoid of most of their choicest tunes.

Your praise of all these organists may be ready, but is it so spontaneous for our present-day organists, and your own church organist in particular? Perhaps he has not the complicated task of playing a great organ—"both hands and feet busy"—of leading a choir through elaborate music, with appropriately varied accompaniment. Perhaps he seems to you to make a poor job of just four hymns and an offertory. Before you withhold your praise, check on these things:

1. Is the organ capable of adequate volume, any variety of tone-color, satisfactory soft playing?

color, satisfactory soft playing?
2. If so, does the church accept the necessity for some expense in maintenance?

3. Do the members co-operate by arriving early enough and keeping quiet enough to make the organ prelude a preparation for worship?

4. How many of the congregation are ready to sing the first words of the hymn, to follow the organist's tempo, to take intelligent notice of punctuation and meaning? 5. Are the organist's efforts towards dignity and reverence in the service ruined by lack of adequate preparation on the president's part, clumsiness of other participants, or irregular attendance and carelessness of choir members?

ness of choir members?

If, after all this, you still find your organist wanting, one final question. Is there available anyone better fitted who is willing to be tied down to unfailingly regular attendance, time spent in preparation, and the nervous strain and physical effort entailed in services, instead of opportunity to rest and think?

Slackers, show-offs and incapables are no doubt found in the organist's seat, but these must stand or fall to their own Master, who alone knows the loyalty of the majority. Let us do all we can to improve the standard of our music by encouraging our young people to listen to and learn about the best music, and by encouraging those who show promise. Too many have failed to develop talent the churches badly need because of the attitude still found—"Miss Muddlit can teach her all she needs. I only want her to play hymns and help in the church."

Too many, pursuing music, have through lack of interest and understanding among Christian people, fallen into the indifference or hostility common among many musicians. Music as an aid to our worship cannot be too good—only when music becomes the end in itself do we risk empty churches or fashionable hypocrisy.

Let us give thanks for the heritage of spiritual music for choir and congregation left us by the organists of the past. Let us be more appreciative of the time and effort given by the unknown organists who live, not in the pages

of musical history or church tunebook, but in the minds of men and women to whom they have brought the love and power of God through music each week.

"Let us now praise famous men... Such as found out musical tunes.... All these were honored in their generations and were the glory of their times. And some there be which have no memorial, who are perished as though they had never been. Their bodies are buried in peace, but their name liveth for evermore."—Ecclesiasticus.

Is Australia Off-Centre?

In Political Aims?

When one is asked if Australia, politically, is off true centre it is all-important to remember that politicians-hence governments reflect the will, temper and trends of those who elect them. It appears to-day that leadership into the field of service has been re-placed by a process of "buying" public support with promises of something for nothing at the cost of the other fellow. Beyond all doubt, Australia, politically is off Politics cannot be and in fact never are, one whit above the level of the values placed on life by those who put politicians into the parliaments of the country. When principles publicly enunciated are forsaken for personal gain and power, it is little wonder that scepticism so influences the people's outlook that it becomes a matter of the "swinging vote" being in the market for the highest bidder. The moral cancers of drink, gambling and other social evils—the recognised causes of poverty of pocket and soul—are left untouched because of group pressures upon politicians whilst most inadequate efforts to lessen their effects are made in forms never damaging to vested interests.

True centred politics will become possible of realisation only when the majority of the people—the creators and the destroyers of governments—are themselves truly on the centre and attain the unselfish ambition of putting first things first—moral and political purity ahead

of sectional interests.

The populace must be ready to demand that adequate wages be paid—not because of any law enforcing such payment—but because it is right to do so. A fair return for such wages must be gladly given for the same reason and a pride in craftsmanship must become a reality in the thinking of the wage earner.

In this way alone acceptance of a unity in aims and purposes for the good of the country can become the motivating power in all political policies because they are approaching true centre. Selfishness is the thing most to be feared to-day.

Further, let it be carefully observed that a man possessed of Christian principles cannot and will not be spiritually "right" but politically "wrong." This applies to all parties, and especially to alleged independents—you do not get bad politics from God-fearing men.—H. G. Rasmussen.

In Industrial Motives?

When you read that query in a church journal you might assume that the answer will be a screaming "Yes." But before we can answer the question justly we ought to know what motives are at work in industry. Why do people go to work, risk their money, collect ulcers? I decided to ask a couple of industrial friends about it. One said with a shrug, "A man's got to eat. So has his family." Another said, "Once you're in, there's no getting out without letting a lot of people down and dropping your own bundle."

This type of answer would go for most people—they work to eat and live, and because of that inherent drive to do something well, to accept responsibility, which is buried in all of us. It's worth noting that good motives do not guarantee any sort of success. On the other hand, quite ordinary motives may lie behind worth-while achievements. No doubt the chief motive, for example, which sent B.H.P. into steel-making was the hope of good profits; but that enterprise produces the cheapest steel in the world, and has laid the foundation for Australia's entire industrial structure.

From the beginning of time man's motives for work haven't changed much and arent's likely to. What should be changed is the way our motives work in practice—sheer selfish drive for the good things of life and for self-expression must be modified by a practical recognition that others have the right to the same things we want for ourselves. That over-riding code, governing and control-

ling all motives, would make goslow and the sweat shop alike impossible. To provide that code, dynamic and authoritative, is part of the church's function.—W. S. Lowe.

In Neighborliness?

That "No man liveth to himself" is one of the most profound truths before humanity to-day. International and all other barriers have been broken down and men are faced with the great fact that a word spoken from Moscow, New York or London will have serious repercussions around the world.

A dispassionate study of world affairs compels one to the opinion that no peoples can live in isolation. This being so, it behoves mankind to so live that the full purposes of life may be attained.

Australia is receiving from many parts of Europe men and women, boys and girls, whose manner of life and ideologies have differed from ours. It will take some time for full adjustment to be made under these conditions.

Surely the readers of this journal have learned from their divine Head the great lesson so eloquently set forth in the parable of the Good Samaritan.

The backward races just north and north-east of us are expecting of us a sympathetic realisation of their emergence into nationhood. They have a longing for self-expression, and in proportion to our neighborliness will the future of our relationships be shaped.

No challenge to our way of life is greater to-day than that presented by an awakening East Asia, and those who close their eyes to these facts are not wise.

The evangelisation of this field is beyond the task of any one church, but the spirit of neighborliness, which is in other words the spirit of Christ, calls us into a fellowship of prayer with the whole church of God, that laborers will be thrust forth into these fields.

be thrust forth into these fields.

Politically "No man liveth to himself." Spiritually this is equally true. We who plead for the

unity of all believers in Christ Jesus have a right attitude of mind and heart to manifest to all who in the name of Christ, and believing him to be the Son of the living God, are seeking to bear witness to his saving grace.—Ira A. Paternoster.

In Popular Enthusiasms?

Races and the whole gambling racket go on sapping money and character from the "suckers" who have succumbed. And when we get to the level of supporting fundamental charitable institutions, only to the extent of what we get out of it, our public morality has sagged badly. Commercialised sport and "canned" entertainment through the radio have tended to take the place of the creative use of personal initiative in recreation, culture and entertainment. Many are physically and culturally the poorer for it.

Chasing a good time has become a feverish stampede, until lots of people are afraid to stop the rush, lest they might discover that a good time has eluded them after all. By a strange paradox one does not achieve a good time by seeking it, but rather by seeking to do the will of the Highest and the Greatest.

The consumption of alcohol has become the one topic of conversation, the one enthusiasm, the one interest, and the one occupation of many people. The height of their concept of fellowship is to sit round a keg with their friends until they are no longer capable of seeing it.

Money for many is god. We still have not discovered that money cannot buy the best things such as friendship, the delight in simple pleasures, love, health, the joy of service, the thrill of achievement that comes from good workmanship, and eternal life.

These are our popular enthusiasms and they are right off centre. But lest we make too hasty and

(Continued on page 238)

EREADTHE

The Victorian Young People's Department is urging the need for trained teachers in our Bible schools. On May 28, in the Assembly Hall a course of training will commence and continue for two months. Registrations for these studies are now being sought. Last year sixty of our teachers enrolled. This year it is hoped that the number will be doubled. Information concerning the courses is available at the Youth Department.

In a personal letter to the editor, James Holloway wrote: "I read with pleasure Dr. A. J. Saunders' article in 'Christian' of May 8, recalling that A. B. Maston had a sense of humor. I, too, remember somewhat of it. I spent a considerable time with Mr. and Mrs. Maston, and one Monday morning, after having spent the week-end with one of our churches and preached twice and helped Sunday school, I told Mr. Maston that the church paid me 3/- and the travelling expenses were 3/4. He looked keenly at me and slowly said, 'You know, brother, there are some preachers who really ought to pay the people to listen to them.' Perhaps he was right. What do you think? Or was it humor?"

A news item in this column in the issue of May 15 indicated that the Federal Foreign Mission Board needed an increase of 20 per cent. in income to maintain present work. The supplementary sentence—the financial lag is now £200 per week—should have read "month" instead of "week."

The day of prayer for students appointed by the World's Student Christian Federation for the year 1951 is Sunday, June 24. Christians are invited to join in seeking God's guidance and the Spirit's enlightment on young men and women pursuing their studies in the various countries of the world.

countries of the world.

Sixty young people from Kyneton, Maryborough, Castlemaine, Bendigo and Golden Square attended Midland Youth Fellowship Rally held at Castlemaine, Vic., on April 28. The following office-bearers were elected at afternoon session: Pres., Bob Iliff (Castlemaine); vice-pres., Miss F. Vercoe (Bendigo); treas., Miss Joan Drake (Maryborough); sec., Harold Lacy (Golden Square). Evening session included an inspirational candlelight service and quiz on Ephesians. Choral items were rendered by the Maryborough young ladies' choir, and solos by Miss Joan Drake and Miss F. Vercoe (Bendigo). Testimonies were given by Harold Lacy, Bob Iliff, Miss Jean Bartlett and Mr. Gilmour.

A. R. Lloyd, secretary of the Victorian Con-

A. R. Lloyd, secretary of the Victorian Conreavement in the loss of his father. He is assured of the sympathy of his brethren throughout the State. Sympathy is extended to all members of the family.

Arnold C. Caldicott in a letter received on May 16 writes: "The Festival of Britain was ushered in with grand pageantry, and it is noteworthy that everything of public interest is first dedicated to God. How grand it was to hear the Archbishop of Canterbury in his address at St. Poul's creek or Brul's received. address at St. Paul's speak on Paul's utterance, 'Work out your own salvation. . . . God worketh in us,' saying, 'Anything not built upon God becomes vain, void and vile.'"

F. L. Hadfield, who by request contributes a brief statement in this issue (see Diary of Grateful Hearts) performed a gallant piece of pioneering work in the initial stages of the New Zealand mission station in Southern Rhodesia. In subsequent years as a member of Parliament, a newspaper proprietor, and business man in Bulawayo, he has maintained his missionary zest.

Any church using "Psalms and Hymns" may replenish their books for freight cost only by applying to the Mildura church, which has on hand about three dozen books. Interested churches are advised to communicate with the preacher, I. J. Chivell, 131 Deakin-ave., Mildura,

O. V. Mann, treasurer of the Foreign Mission Board, says: "Only five weeks to go till the annual offering. Missionaries and co-workers Board, says:
annual offering. Missionaries and co-works await the brotherhood verdict, for this issue will decide whether Board can grant field estimated the coming year. Shall it mean adaptive the coming year. mates for the coming year. Shall it mean advance or curtailment? The Board faces a grave financial crisis."

A. B. Clark succeeds E. T. Hart as editor of the "Christian Echo," the Queensland State

Over 107 1st degree Good Companions will be encamped at the Waterman Memorial camp site, Monbulk, Vic., during the May school holidays. Miss Rita Roberts will be supported by a team of 16 leaders and helpers.

"Skyways," whch now incorporates "Pure Words," is growing in popularity. It has now reached a circulation of approximately 7000. The following are now regular contributors: Messrs. F. C. Hunting, W. G. Graham, T. Bamford, T. T. Robinson, R. Holmes, D. W. Hibburt and J. H. Harrison. With a view to extending the sphere of temperance teaching, the Temperance Committee of the Victorian Women's Conference is circulating 710 copies during May, June and July to schools in Victoria not covered in the circulation. Sample copies are available on application.

The Victorian Social Service Department and C.M.S. Central Board are planning to entertain 200 men of the churches at tea in the Lygonst. hall on Friday, June 1, when the men will be asked to take part in a big project.



From 77 years crowded with God's blessings, here are two. For the first seven years in Africa I suffered from a malady that at times made me helpless. At last my doctor said: "It is hopeless, you simply cannot become acclimatised, you must leave Africa." But I had come as a missionary, so I prayed and stayed. The disease disappeared, and for 38 years I have enjoyed robust health.

Again: I had a wonderfully Christlike mother, him. So, though I early learned to love Jesus the Son, I was frightened of God, the Father. It was sinful but I could not overcome it. When forty years old I was walking in brilliant recollisht and nordering this matter. I stopped moonlight and pondering this matter. I stopped, kneeled down on the veld and cried, teach me to love the Father." Instantly teach me to love the Father." Instantly there flashed into my mind the words, "The Father himself loveth you." My heart was flooded with radiance brighter than the moon. I rose from my knees, loving the Father.—F. L. Hadfield, Bulawayo, S. Rhodesea.

You can only enjoy that which you believe.

If we are prisoners, it is because we ourselves have built the prison.

Life is given to us so that we may progress and develop through experience.



FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

Mrs. Warne has been elected treasurer of the Women's Federal Conference in place of

Mrs. Cartmel, who recently resigned.

At the Queensland Women's Conference, devotional leaders were Mrs. J. Wright and Mrs. Lloyd Jones. Mrs. Haworth presided over a representative gathering. Mrs. Berlin, 13 years Overseas Superintendant, was presented with a fruit bowl on her retirement from office. Mrs. H. J. Payne is the new Superintendant. The newly appointed President, Mrs. E. Potter, thanked Mrs. Haworth for her able leadership and presented her with a spray of flowers. All reports showed progress of the various committees.

The Western Australian Women's Conference was presided over by Mrs. Digwood. A roll-call of the churches showed that every church in the State was represented. Mrs. Ron McLean gave a very interesting talk on the work in the New Hebrides. Mr. C. J. Robinson was the speaker at the evening session. Mrs. Seaby is

the new president.

At the monthly meetings in Victoria, Mrs.

Brigadier Wallace of the Salvation Army and Mrs. J. Smith of Pentecost, New Hebrides, have been recent speakers. Reports from the various departments show the work to be flourishing.

South Australia held a successful one day conference in March. At the morning session Mrs. Suttle, Fullarton, Mrs. Lawrence, Unley, and Mrs. Butler, Cottonville, opened a discussion on "Women's Work—Its Success and Problems." Mrs. C. Verco—then spoke of her trip abroad. Following the adjournment for lunch, Mrs. Hughes spoke on the work at the Migrant Camp and Sister Harkness spoke about the Christian Rest Home.

The "Young Marrieds" took the devotional service at the May meeting when Mrs. Lewis presided, Mrs. Millbank sang a solo and Mrs.

presided, Mrs. Millbank sang a solo and Mrs. Don. Beiler gave a talk.

Mrs. R. H. Wakeley and Mrs. Ron McLean were the speakers at the monthly meeting of the N.S.W. Conference. Owing to the illness of her mother, the president, Mrs. Greenhalgh, was unable to attend. Mrs. Snow presided over the meeting which was attended by a large number of delegates.

At the recent Oversland Conference it was

At the recent Queensland Conference it was decided to adopt the Budget System, and at the Western Australian Women's Conference it was decided to continue with this mode of financing the work. This makes three States, O'ld., W.A., and N.S.W., following a plan of

budgeting.

At the National Convention of the W.C.T.U., held in Brisbane, Mrs. W. F. Nankivell was appointed Vice-President. Mrs. Nankivell has served the National Convention as Recording

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.

Further reports which have come to hand of Hall, Collins Street. At the afternoon session led by Mrs. A. W. Cleland and attended by Lady Brooks and representative women, Mrs. Hedly Bunton was the speaker. Nearly 200 groups throughout Victoria joined in the worldwide intercession. wide intercession.

In Western Australia the World Day of Prayer was sponsored by the United Council of Christian Women. The central service was held in Trinity Congregational Church and a Youth service in the evening in the Salvation Army Fortress. A large number of country centres arranged for a united service.

Missionary News

A. Anderson, Secretary, F.M. Board.

THE GREATEST THING IN THE WORLD.

At Mahableshwar, the missionary language students have what is called "Singspiration." This is held on Sunday evenings at different bungalows and here we have the opportunity of singing praises and giving testimonies.

Quite often I feel how unworthy I am for the task of preaching the gospel in this land of India, or anywhere, if it comes to that. How often the love of Christ fails to shine out of my life. The need of Christ's love in my heart was made very clear at one of our Singspirations, when someone read "An Indian Paraphrase of 1 Corinthians, chapter 13." Here

"If I have the language ever so perfectly and speak like a pundit, and have not the knack of love that grips the heart, I am nothing.

If I have decorations and diplomas, and am proficient in up-to-date methods, and have not the touch of an understanding love, I am nothing.

If I am able to worst my opponents in argument so as to make fools of them and have not the wooing note, I am nothing.

If I have all faith and great, ideals and magnificent plans, and wonderful visions, and have not the love that sweats and bleeds and weeps, and prays and pleads, I am nothing.

If I give no end of money to benefit the poor and have not the love to sometimes take them into my home, I am nothing.

If I surrender all prospects, and, leaving home and friends and comforts, give myself to the self-evident sacrifice of a missionary career and turn sour and selfish amid the daily annoyances and personal slights of a missionary life, and though I give my body to be consumed in the heat and sweat and mildew of India, and have not the love that yields its rights, its coveted leisure, its pet plans, I am nothing, nothing! Virtue has ceased to go out of me.

If I can heal all manner of sickness and disease, but wound hearts and hurt feelings for want of love that is kind, I am nothing.

If I can write books and publish articles that set the world agog, and fail to transcribe the Word of the Cross in the language of love, I am nothing; worse, if I have not this love, I may be competent, busy, fussy, punctilious, well-equipped, but, like the Church at Laodicea, nauseating to Christ."

So, we would ask for the prayers of all our brethren in Australia, that we may know more of the love of Christ. That his love may constrain us to serve him in India even as he has served us. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."—R. C. Dixon.

NEWS FROM NEW HEBRIDES.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith arrived safely on Pentecost and received a warm welcome. They sent greetings to all.

Mr. and Mrs. McLean, who left for Sydney a week or so ago to catch the "Morinda," are still held up in Sydney. Even planes are booked out till the end of June.

After the severe hurricane in the Islands measles in a bad form appeared. Hundreds of people went down with it. Sister Finger reports that they have had an exceptionally busy time

in recent weeks.

The ugliest word and the ugliest thing in the world is selfishness. It is the seed plot of all the things that curse humanity to-day.



GILBULLA, 1951 (4).

(6) Faith and Order Commission-The "Faith and Order Movement" began in 1910. When incorporated in the World Council of Churches in 1948 it became the "Faith and Order Commission." The Commission's constitution of the Commission of the Commis

stitution states:

(1) Its main work is to draw churches out of isolation into conference, in which none is to be asked to be disloyal to or to compromise to be assed to be distoyal to or to compromise its convictions, but to seek to explain them to others while seeking to understand their points of view. Irreconcilable differences are to be recorded as honestly as agreements.

"(2) Only churches themselves are competent to take actual steps towards reunion by entering into negotiations with one another. The work

of the movement is not to formulate schemes and tell the churches what they ought to do, but to act as the handmaid of the churches in the preparatory work of clearing away mis-understandings, discussing obstacles to reunion, and issuing reports which are submitted to the churches for their approval."

The first world conference of Faith and Order

was held at Lausanne, 1927; the second at Edinburgh, 1937; and the third is planned for Lund, Sweden, 1952. It will consider "The Church in the Purpose of God."

Particular attention will be paid at Lund to the "basis of union" of the United Church of Chur

Canada and the Church of South India, and to the "Scheme of Church Union in Ceylon."

The Australian Faith and Order Commission held three conferences, at Gilbulla, as follows:

follows:

(1) February 20, 21, 1950, "The Nature of Authority," our representatives, H. J. Patterson and E. W. Roffey.

(2) July 31-August 2, 1950, "The Reunion Schemes of South India, Ceylon and Canada," our representative, I. Paternoster.

(3) February 15, 16, 1951, "The Reunited Church," our representatives, I. Paternoster and R. W. Graham.

W. Graham.

The next conference, continuing study on "The Reunited Church," is scheduled for Gilbulla, August this year.

Our representatives on the Commission, appointed by the Australian Council, are: I Paternoster, and E. W. Roffey, with E. L. Williams and R. W. Graham as corresponding members.

The present chairman of the Commission is the Bishop of Newcastle, Dr. de Witt Batty, and secretary, the Dean of Sydney, Dr. Babbage.

(It was my privilege to be acting Secretary at the last February meeting.)

The Faith and Order Commission has no power to issue statements without the authority of the Australian Council. Its reports, when issued from time to time, are in the form of findings presented to the churches for their information and study, not of recommendations. The duty of the commission is to report to the churches on the measure of agreement dis-covered. "Disagreements are to be honestly and impartially recorded equally with agree-

ments."
"Faith and Order" stands for a method of work for all who seek greater unity. "It aims first at understanding others, not at 'converting' them; it means patient listening, complete frankness in expounding one's own belief and in questioning the exposition of others. It faces differences as honestly as agreements; it speaks 'the truth in love.' The hope that this method may lead to unity is grounded upon the belief that Christ is the Truth, so that as we submit ourselves, in such fellowship with one another, He will draw us together into that 'wholeness' which is his already."—Contributed by R. W. Graham, for the Federal Committee for the Promotion of Christian Union.

I've been thinking ...

By Horace Kingsbury.

I've been thinking of two emphases in the Parable of the Prodigal Son, which are expressed by the words, "Give me!" and "Make me!"

"Give me!" has a mandatory sound about it, and indicates an attitude by no means peculiar to the Prodigal Son.



There's so much selfishness in all of us that we might be suspected of being interested in God largely for what we can get out of him.

One of my friends once sent me a clipping from a busines-man's magazine, which dealt in a more or humorous way human supplications. It

told of a commercial traveller who was always asking favors of God—Give me this, give me that, give me something else—until all at once his prayers palled on himself. Then he saw the light, and ejaculated, "And now, Lord, is there anything I can do for you?" "And," concluded the story, "The Lord said, 'Now you're

When the Prodigal came to himself he arose and went to his father and besought "Make me as one of thy hired servants." It was not "give me" now, but rather forgive me, and "make me" something, if only a servant; and his father restored him to his rightful place as an honored and respected son.

Another of my friends nearly spoiled his life by his early forgetfulness of God. He came to himris early forgettulness of God. He came to himself and to his father one midnight, in the midst of his follies; and there and then he prayed as never before: "Father, I have made a mess of things. Now you take control." God did take control, and henceforth his life was different, and useful and happy. When he let God have his way with him, God made him what he had made him capable of becoming.

The commencement of a Radio Sunday School at Mildura, Vic., by the Sunraysia churches represents a spiritual thrust into the life of the One hundred pounds has been community. One hundred pounds has been donated to assure the success of the venture for the first year. Mrs. Hall (Auntie Vera) and I. J. Chivell (Uncle Jack) are the radio personalities. An enrolment of 500 scholars is the aim for the first year. Parents are asked to encourage children to enrol. The example of one lady in calling together the children at play in the street to listen to the session could be followed by others throughout the district. The session is conducted at 2.30 p.m. each Sunday from station 3MA.

CHRISTIANITY IN OLD MOULDS.

The ever-present temptation for Christians in the year 1951 is to pour Christianity into sec-tarian moulds. The enthusiasts in the cause of Christ are liable to err if in presenting their special emphasis or in safeguarding truth any organisation becomes divisive or gravitates into a clique. The pioneers of Christian unity adopted the principle that the persuading of men to love, trust and obey a divine Saviour, is the one great end for which we labor in the gospel; assured that if men are right about Christ, Christ will bring them right about everything else.

INTERSTATE

CHURCH NEWS

" . . they rehearsed all that God had done with them."

Discipleship

Marion Burman, West Preston, Vic.
Howard Weedon, West Preston, Vic.
Les Deeks, West Preston, Vic.
Christine Roberts, Fairfield, Vic.
Lance Wardle, Warracknabeal, Vic.
Gwen Rogers, Warracknabeal, Vic.
Dorothy Spiker, Camberwell, Vic.
P. O'Neill, Warrnambool, Vic.
Mrs. and Miss Fulston, Kersbrook, S.A.
Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Walker, Fullarton, S.A.
Mrs. Holton, Fullarton, S.A.
Mrs. Ransley, Fullarton, S.A.
Mrs. Nash, Fullarton, S.A.

Membership

Miss Elva Walton, Hampton, Vic.
Mr. Doug. Dowling, Hampton, Vic.
Mrs. Goss, Murwillumbah-Tyalgum, N.S.W.
Beverley Riches, Forestville, S.A.
Max Frost, Forestville, S.A.
Mr. and Mrs. H. Walpole, Oakleigh, Vic.

Marriage

Joan Newell to Arthur Borden, Minyip, Vic. Daisy Beech to George Taylor, West Preston, Vic.

Fallen Asleep

Miss Lily Ruth Blakesley, Malvern-Caulfield, Vic. Mrs. H. Campbell, Gardiner, Vic.

Queensland

Bundaberg.—Services have good attendances—many visitors being present. On April 21 a welcome service was conducted in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Jones: F. Prestwood was chairman. There were several solos. Alderman C. Nielsen of Bundaberg City Council welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Jones on behalf of citizens of Bundaberg. Pastor Buckley of Baptist church represented the Ministers' Fraternal. Letter of introduction was read from church at Wollongong. On April 30, Bible School picnic was held and £14 was raised for children. On May 5 a Garden Party was held to clear debt of £40 on new piano at Sym's Road Chapel.

Brisbane (Ann Street).—Sunday school annual picnic was held on April 30, at Mowbray Park. On May 9, tennis club spent happy day at courts at Victoria Park. Members of I.C.E. provided every member with white flowers before service on Mother's Day. In afternoon, society held a special meeting for mothers, presenting each with a bookmark, and guest speaker, Mrs. W. Mills, with a bouquet of roses. Women's Fellowship has launched a scheme to gain associate members and their support in auxiliary's work. Visitors recently included Mr. and Mrs.

A Moore, Nailsworth, S.A.; Mr. and Mrs. G. Horsey, Lane Cove; Miss M. Woodhouse, Epping; Miss T. Timmings Glenfield, N.S.W.; and Mr. and Mrs. G. Taylor, West Preston, Vic.

Rocklea.—Three married people received into fellowship over past month, four intermediategirls accepted Christ; Sunday school had record attendance with twelve new scholars. On Mother's Day, special items by youth, a film by Mr. Wilshire, and address by C. Charrington, brought record attendance. Monthly tract drive begun in preparation for mission by Mr. Wright of Albion in June.

Tasmania

Hobart (Collins Street).—State Executive of Tas. Sisters' Conference held successful afternoon on May 1. Opening devotional service was conducted by Vice-President, Mrs. Holt. A musical programme was followed by afternoon tea, a trading table proceeds were £3/16/-. On May 3, Dr. Wickizer addressed a meeting at Collins Street. A basket supper was served. Sunday school picnic was held at the Taroona Rotary Camp on Saturday May 5.

New South Wales

Wagga.—The church has accepted with regret resignation of Mr. W. Thompson after 5½ years ministry. Men's Fellowship had enjoyable evening on May 2, when the Albury Fellowship presented programme. On May 2 Ladies' Aid had a Needlework Display, and on May 8, Young Matrons' presented afternoon's programme.

Chatswood.—By unanimous consent, R. V. Amos, who has just completed five years ministry, has been asked to continue for another three years. Mr. W. T. Atkin, of Melbourne, has been a welcome visitor at several recent services. 37th church Anniversary was held on May 6. At 11 a.m. Dr. Willard Wickizer addressed church. At Pleasant Sunday Afternoon meeting, held at 3 p.m., Dr. T. C. Baja (Consul for the Philippines) was speaker. At 5 p.m. fellowship tea was held, "Honoring the Pioneers," and 250 were present. The Gospel Service was broadcast by 2CH, Mr. Amos speaking.

Murwillumbah-Tyalgum.—Miss Lilean Stewart, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Stewart of Bray's Creek, has left for service with Aborigines Inland Mission on Palm Island. She was farewelled prior to her departure. Mr and Mrs. R. Marley have left Murwillumbah temporarily. Owing to transfer to Launceston, R. M. Wilson has closed his part-time ministry with churches in Tweed District, who have appreciated his service during past eighteen months.

Bexley North.—During absence of R. Saunders, conducting teaching mission at Rockdale, helpful messages were given by B. E. Cavill and G. W. Hardimon. A. W. Stephenson, Principal Woolwich Bible College conducted gospel service on April 29, and Y.P.S.C.E. on May 6. R. McLean, from New Hebrides, spoke at mid-week prayer New Hebrides, spoke at mid-week prayer meeting. On May 13, R. Beadle brought message from Scriptures, and in afternoon Mrs. R. McCallum addressed mothers of Cradle Roll and Kindergarten children. At night R. Saunders preached

when Bible school scholars took part in special Mother's Dad service. A visit from Miss Win. Walker to Bible school was welcome. Sympathy of church is extended to isolated sister Mrs. Norton (nee May Baker), in death of her husband.

Lane Cove.—At half-yearly business meeting a manse fund was launched aiming to raise £500 by October, 1952. Mr. A. W. Stephenson was appointed an elder. E. W. Roffey continues as preacher. A series of monthly film services is being held. On May 6 "The Prodigal Son" was presented. Fellowship with missionaries Miss W. Walker (India), Mr. and Mrs. Smith, and Mr. and Mrs. R. MacLean (New Hebrides), has been enjoyed. 25 mothers of kindergarten children were entertained on Mother's Day. Bible school teachers had a happy day's outing to Cottai and Windsor, on Jubilee Day. Monthly offering for food for India parcels was £7/10/-

Earlwood.—At Mother's Day services Mr. Morris (Belmore), and Mr. A. Hinrichsen, preached. Gifts were presented to oldest, and youngest mothers present. Mrs. Walker was soloist. John and Geof. Hudson, Wal and Phillip Cooper sang when clubs combined in Church Parade. One young lad confessed Christ. Mrs. Strickland is making fair recovery.

Beverley Hills.—At Annual Business meeting following deacons were elected, L. Wheat (Sec.), G. Walker (Treas.), A. E. Fairbrother, I. Hansen, W. Evans, I. Skinner, J. Taylor. Efforts are being made to clear off building debt. Reports from auxiliaries showed healthy state. Room (20 by 10) has been added to Kinder Hall, and kitchen refitted with new cupboards and accessories, greatly improving school. At Ladies' Guild Annual meeting Mrs. Newberry (Pres), Mrs. Slaughter (Sec.), Mrs. Cooke (Treas.), were elected. P.B.P. gave mothers a social on May 7; physical culture and other items made up programme. At Mother's Day meetings Mr. Taylor presided in the afternoon and Mrs. Lewis gave an address. Items by I.C.E. and Kinders, and a gift to Mrs. Kitney who was oldest mother present. Ladies' Guild conducted evening service with an address by Mr. Cavill.

South Australia

Croydon.—Empire Youth Sunday was celebrated on May 6, at morning service and Sunday school, after which 90 enjoyed a basket tea. Youth took part in evening service. T. Edge addressed the congregation. This was amplified by W. Bartlett. At close of service a presentation of a fireside chair was made to Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Brand. Mr. Brand was for many years church treasurer and asst. secretary of Bible school.

Padthaway.—Padthaway is a new area being developed by Soldier Settlement. Sunday school under capable leadership of Mrs. Jones, has been functioning for twelve months, and is in a

COMING EVENTS.

MAY 27 (Sunday).—Newmarket Church of Christ Bible School Anniversary at 3 and 7 p.m. Special speakers. Hospitality provided.

70th JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS, CHURCH OF CHRIST, OWEN, S.A. To be held on Sept. 2 and 3, 1951.

All past members and friends invited. Accommodation arranged for. The secretary would be glad to hear from any past members who who do not receive an official invitation by June 30. Full particulars later.—L. W. Marshman, Owen, S.A., secretary.

BAMBRA RD., CAULFIELD, 31st CHURCH ANNIVERSARY, SUNDAY, MAY 27.

11 a.m., A. E. White, from New Zealand.
7 p.m., Reg. Enniss, World Convention President.
All former members of the congregation invited
to share in the fellowship and inspiration of
these services.

INVITATION TO MALVERN-CAULFIELD,

(Dandenong Road),

MAY 20 and 27.

Concluding Messages by HORACE KINGSBURY.

All welcome to after-church social hour on May 27.

WANTED.

For church work, small organ or piano by church of Christ, Box Hill. Full particulars from secretary, R. E. Ward, 44 Victoria-st., Box Hill, E.11, Vic.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST BIBLE COLLEGE, N.S.W.

WANTED—A HOUSEKEEPER AT WOOLWICH COLLEGE.

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ACCOMMODATION.

Sorrento.—All electric two-room flat. Water, accommodate four. Vacant May 26-Sept. 1, Sept. 10-Oct. 8, Oct. 29 onwards (not vacant Dec. 22-Feb. 13, 1952).—Claude Gadge, 49 Springfield-rd., Blackburn, Vic. WX5494.

Holiday shack, Sorrento, accommodate four, water, electric light, £2/10/- per week. Vacant May 29-Sept. 2, Oct. 1 onwards (not vacant Dec. 22-Jan. 28, 1952).—Claude Gadge, 49 Springfield-rd., Blackburn, Vic. WX5494.

FOR THE CHILDREN.

Two delightful books by Enid Blyton, a writer who has the entry to a child's heart and mind. "The Boy with the Loaves and Fishes." Told in simple and lovely language, making it unforgettable to any reader.

"The Little Girl at Capernaum." The story of Jairus' daughter.

Price, 3/3 each (posted 3/8).

KESWICK BOOK DEPOT For Everything Evangelical 315 Collins St., Melbourne. healthy condition. On May 6, a gospel service was held for first time, in a dining hall of a shearers' hut. There were thirty-seven present.

Hindmarsh.—During Youth Week K.O.C. members formed choir Sunday evening, May 6. Individual items were also given. Sports afternoon was held on tennis courts, on May 9. Mother's Day services were held on May 13. Croydon Men's Fellowship joined Hindmarsh for afternoon service, J. E. Shipway introduced topic "Praying Mothers" and others took part in a discussion. Evening service was led by Doris Galliford, while Bible School Scholars took part in solos, and Scripture reading—J. E. Shipway spoke. Bible school officers and teachers met G. R. Stirling at tea and conference on may 14.

Adelaide (Grote Street).—Sunday school anniversary was held on April 29. Mr Sherman and Mr. Cain were guest speakers at morning and afternoon services. A Youth Tea was held and approx. 300 people attended evening service. Mr. Candy gave a "Flannelgraph" talk at prizegiving on Wednesday night. On Youth Sunday, May 6, young men presided and assisted at both services. On Monday 7th, Y.P.S.C.E. held a squash evening in conjunction with Adelaide District C.E. Union. Youth Council sponsored a campfire at Aldgate in conjunction with Stirling and Aldgate Valley churches. About 50 attended. Three young people were baptised at the evening service on May 13, which was a Family Pew Service. Sis. Mosley is ill. Interstate visitors this month have been welcome.

Fullarton.—On May 8 seven were baptised, 2 being from Kersbrook. On May 13 B. W. Manning was at Kersbrook for morning worship and welcomed several new members. In aftermoon and evening he spoke at Gawler Meth. anniversary services. At Fullarton, Elder W. V. Wright welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Walker. Speakers for the day were E. Humphrey Hall and Dr. Harold Steward. On May 11 Girls' Club arranged a Mother's Day evening with programme in hands of Mrs. J. Walker. Mothers of girls were presented with a posy.

ELOCUTION PUPILS.

Miss Lorna Ford, A.L.C.M., has vacancies and will be pleased to interview anyone at her home—858 Hampton-st., North Brighton, Vic.

HOLIDAY IN ADELAIDE.

Bed and breakfast. Reasonable terms. Apply Social Service Dept., Bible House, Melhourne. MU2104.

SECRETARIES!

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IN MEMORIAM.

GREAVES.—In sad and loving memory of my dear husband, Arthur, and loved father, who passed away May 26, 1949. Ever remembered.
—Inserted by his loving wife.

JONES (Arthur William).—With loving memories of our dear dad, who fell asleep May 12, 1950. "To live in the hearts of those we love is not to die."—Inserted by Thelma and Len Butler and family.

BODY.—In loxing memory of my beloved husband, Arthur Stanley, who passed away May 22, 1947. A loving husband and father. "Not just for to-day, but every day, in silence we remember."

-Inserted by his wife and family.

DEATH.

GRAHAM.—On May 6, John George, dearly loved father of Will and father-in-law of Emmy, much loved grand-daddy of Ronald, Neil and baby Stephanie. Aged 90. Dear "Daddy." "There shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying."

BIRTHS.

HARPER (nee Payne).—On May 9, at Ardlethan district hospital, N.S.W.—a daughter, Lorraine Joy.

CAMBRIDGE.—To Ern and Phyllis, 15 Grayterr., Rosewater, S.A.—a son, Mark Edward.

COMING EVENTS.

JUNE 1 (Friday).—Victorian Women's Conference Executive Council will meet at Swanston-st. at 2 p.m. Police-woman E. Carr will be the speaker, and Mrs. A. White will lead devotions. There will be a roll-call of delegates. All women welcome.

GARDINER CHURCH OF CHRIST. COMMENCEMENT OF F. A. YOUENS' MINISTRY,

SUNDAY, JUNE 3.

11 a.m., Worship Service.
 7 p.m., Gospel Service, followed by Happy Hour of Fellowship. Immanuel Quartette Party assisting.

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8 p.m., Public Welcome to F. A. Youens and Family.

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Speakers:

11.30, C. Arrowsmith.
2.30, J. Pearson Harrison, T. A. Fitzgerald.
6.30, Missionary Hour. (Regions Beyond Mission.)
7.30, W. E. Jackel.

Milk, tea and sugar provided for lunch and tea. Come and spend the day with us. (Continued from page 233)

self righteous a judgment on our fellow Australians, let us remember that Australia is like it is very largely because of the misplaced enthusiasms of we folk in the church. Often our enthusiasms are for limelight, roll numbers, mere organisation, controversy, the letter of degme over own is the letter of dogma, our own isolated local interests, our pet theories and prejudices, and our own little selves. Jesus Christ still points to the one supreme object of en-thusiasm. He said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness." When that is our enthusiasm there may be some hope for Australia.—G. R. Stirling.

In Educational Aims?

The educationalist may or may not have the power to create a new world. If he has, to-day's world conditions are painful evi-dence either of failure in exer-cising it or of tragically mistaken objectives.

Very few people to-day conceive all education as based on "a little schoolhouse where a little man on a little salary teaches little children little things." Education must cater for mental, physical, moral and social development—at primary, secondary, technical university and "extension" stages—by methods which include film, radio and library.
Yet does education, with all this

and more, resemble the large dog, well equipped for a long rail journey and its transport paid for, . . . but which had eaten its for, . . . but which had eaten its label? Does education know where

it is going—the whole system de-liberately, daily moving towards a defined objective?

Every stage has basic problems. As the first (primary school) chapter is being written, will it be satisfactory in itself? How is the machine to handle Tom (who isn't very bright), Dick (who can't con-centrate) and Harry (who "couldn't care less" because his arithmetic will never again matter except to assess his "S.P." winnings)? At the closing (university) stage is there danger of producing clever specialists lacking wisdom, balance and understanding of either their fellowmen or things outside their immedate specialising?

The educator must work on the assumption that he can create a new world by his impact on the raw material (human beings) on which social orders, economic systems and forms of government are built; the new generation he is making must conserve what is good in his own and progress to-

wards some higher goal.

A leading educationalist recently bade all teachers encourage "reverence for whatsoever things are true and lovely and of good report" and "inculcate virtues tolerance, honor and justice." Maybe, even though the system itself is secular, here is the secret of re-centering educational aims.—F. J. Funston.

In Social Habits?

Thinking of some habits which are characteristic of the nation, the answer is unquestionably yes. To mention a few by way of illustration, let us look at-

1. The Drink Habit.

Australians spend over £100 millions yearly on liquor. The appalling economic waste is bad enough, but when we remember what it represents in wasted lives, in misery, destitution, crime, insanity, road accidents, brawls, domestic unhappiness, one can say that Australia is off true centre. Our politicians are silent before this waste of resources. There is not a man big enough to face the issue. Action is called for. The various Governments must be harried and worried by patriotic Australians who are not prepared to let their country be undermined and spoilt by this evil habit.

2. The Gambling Habit.

On a conservative estimate Australians spend over £200 millions each year on gambling. from the economic loss, there is the moral degradation which results in many lives. One committee in England appointed by parliament to make recommendations on this social habit, found that through gambling "idleness, dissipation and poverty were in-creased, the most sacred trusts are betrayed, domestic confidence is destroyed, madness is created, crimes are committed and even suicide is produced." Despite the many legalised forms of gambling, many legalised forms of gambling, interested parties are now asking the Government to legalise off-the-course betting. Why are most Christian people silent? A volume of protests would help influence halting politicians who are more concerned with votes than moral issues.

3. The Smoking Habit.
Some would say, forget about this commonplace social habit, but should we? It represents an economic waste of over £20 million each year. Should we, if this each year. Should we, if this social habit brings impairment of health? I quote from Gene Tunney in his pamphlet, "Nicotine Knockout": "Dr. Raymond Pearl, of Johns Hopkins, found that among 100,000 heavy (over ten eigarettes a day) smokers, 53,774 die. before the age of 60. Among the same number of non-smokers, only 43,436 die before that age." "Smoking," he announced, "is associated with definite impairment of longevity. This impairment is proportional to the habitual amount of tobacco used." Much more could be written, but this is worth thinking about.

4. The Lord's Day Holiday Habit. In days past, national greatness was a resultant of a Bible-loving, God-fearing people, but to-day our moral greatness is no longer an outstanding characteristic. As a nation we have forsaken God. This is revealed in the social habit of making the Lord's day merely a holiday. A symptom of a deeper malady—loss of faith in God. As a nation we are off true centre

in many of our social habits. What is the way back? The answer is in 2 Chronicles 7: 14, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will for-give their sin, and will heal their land."—W. T. Atkin,

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RAPTISTS

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Obituary

MRS. ALICE McPHERSON.

After a distressing illness lasting ten months, After a distressing illness lasting ten months, Mrs. Alice McPherson passed peacefully to her rest on May 2. She was an active and loved member of the Parkdale church and will be remembered particularly for her quiet devotion to the Lord's work, especially in connection with the Women's Mission Band. Mrs. Mc-Pherson confessed her faith in Christ during the Saunders-MacNaughton Mission and remained faithful to the last—G.W.B. faithful to the last .- G.W.B.

LAWRENCE SMITH.

The church at Parkdale was shocked by tragic death of one of its finest lads. Lawrence Smith, aged 14 years, who was killed by a "hit and run" motorist. Since coming to the district he had always shown keen interest, and was actively engaged, in the activities of the Bible school and the Young Worshippers League. Laurie was one of the young folk who confessed Christ at the last Y.W.L. anniversary and was baptised into Christ last December. With his family, he was well known at North Essendon and Carnegie churches also. On May 8, a large number of friends and relatives filled the chapel, to pay their last loving tribute to one whom they highly esteemed. Laurie was an office bearer highly esteemed. Laurie was an office bearer in the I.O.R. Lodge, and a patrol-leader in the Scouts. He had expressed his desire to become a preacher of the Word, and was planning his future with this view. The New Testament,

presented when he was received into the fellowpresented when he was received into the fellow-ship of the church was in his pocket at the time of the accident. Fellow scouts formed a guard of honor, both at the chapel and at the cemetry. All who knew him feel his loss keenly. We commend his loved ones to God's care in this, their second bereavement within a few months.—G.W.B.

MRS. JANE MORRISON.

Fell asleep (after a long illness) on March 11, at the advanced age of 85. She was probably the oldest member at Dawson Street, Ballarat, having been associated in her girlhood, first with the Peel Street Church, and then at Dawson Street, along with her parents. For many years she was the organist, and most active in Dorcas and other women's activities and with her late husband she made her home a hospitable centre. Her son, Joseph, was much missed when he removed to N.S.W., and to him and to her daughter, Hettie, sincere sympathy has been expressed by many friends. Miss Hetty's devotion to her mother was a notable example of filial affection. The funeral service was taken by Mr. F. Hunting.—J.A.W.

MRS. A. E. CHAPMAN.

A faithful member of the Subiaco church, Mrs. A. E. Chapman was called from this life in the early hours of Friday, May 4. Our late sister came into church at Broken Hill in 1909, during ministry of late E. J. Tuck. She was then Miss Lottie Manley, and she and A. E. (Bert) Chapman, who entered Broken Hill church at same time, were first to be married in the Wolfram Street church. Since leaving Broken



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Hill our late sister has held membership with the churches at Berri and Glenelg, in S.A., and at Subiaco. In all these places she manifested great concern for spiritual well being of others. Her life was everywhere effective for good. Here in Subiaco she was for years a regular visitor at the Home of Peace—a home for incurables. She was loved by all the patients there and in other institutions. She suffered for a few years and underwent many operations and much hospital treatment, but was always bright and hopeful. She had a very real faith and always held that what God sent was best. Funeral services, were conducted in Subiaco chapel and at graveside by R. Raymond. C. H. Hunt, a life-long friend, paid a worthy tribute at the graveside. Sympathy of church is ex-tended to sorrowing husband and family.—R.R.

W. DAVEY.

The church at Springvale lost an esteemed member on May 2, when Mr. W. Davey received his home call. In his 90th year, he continued his home call. In his 90th year, he continued to walk a mile or so to attend the Lord's Supper, until failing strength prevented him a few months ago. Mr. Davey leaves behind a nunique record of association with churches of Christ. Baptised at Dawson Street, Ballarat, at 17 years of age, he later spent some time at Prahran, followed by 30 years at St. Kilda, 16 years at Bambra Road, Caulfield, and nearly 10 years at Springvale, where he was a pioneer member. Married to Edith Harp, at Buninyong, in 1885, the Davey's enjoyed 50 years of married life, during which time a family of twelve was reared in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Surviving members of the family of the Lord. Surviving members of the family are connected with seven Melbourne churches. Services were conducted at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Syd Davey, who had bestowed affectionate care on Mr. Davey during his latter years, and at Springvale cemetery, by J. K. Bond and G. A. Grainger. The Lord's people gathered to pay tribute to a life well spent, and an example in steadfastness seldom seen.

Open Forum

(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.).

FOR UNITY

As one, who like yourself, believes that the As one, who like yourself, believes that the Unity for which Christ prayed could take place in this Gospel age I claim space to dissent from the unworthy, because uncharitable criticism of your recent Editorial. A unity of such findings and such a spirit would be worthless because most sectarian. Our brother, by quoting (Luke 18: 8) from a lack of appreciation of dispensational truth has formed a wrong conclusion. These things marked the end of the lewish age and do not at all refer to the end Jewish age and do not at all refer to the end of the gospel age. However our interpretation of this scripture has led to Bro. Caves' conclusions. Instead of our Saviour being elated over a united Christendom, I think Luke 18: 3 over a united Christendom, I think Luke 10; o must have been made with a feeling in the heart of our Lord akin to that when He wept over the doomed city. He knew that of his beloved people ("beloved for the Father's sake") only a remnant would be saved, while upwards of his world possible not along of his only a remnant would be saved, while upwards of two millions would perish, not alone of his avowed enemies, but also many, who once had believed in him, but had lost their "begun confidence," and, from lack of patience, had "shrunk back into perdition." These statements do not militate against the idea that the world will be converted by the gospel.—T. J. Johnston, Laurosetten, Tarmenia. Launceston, Tasmania.

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