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# THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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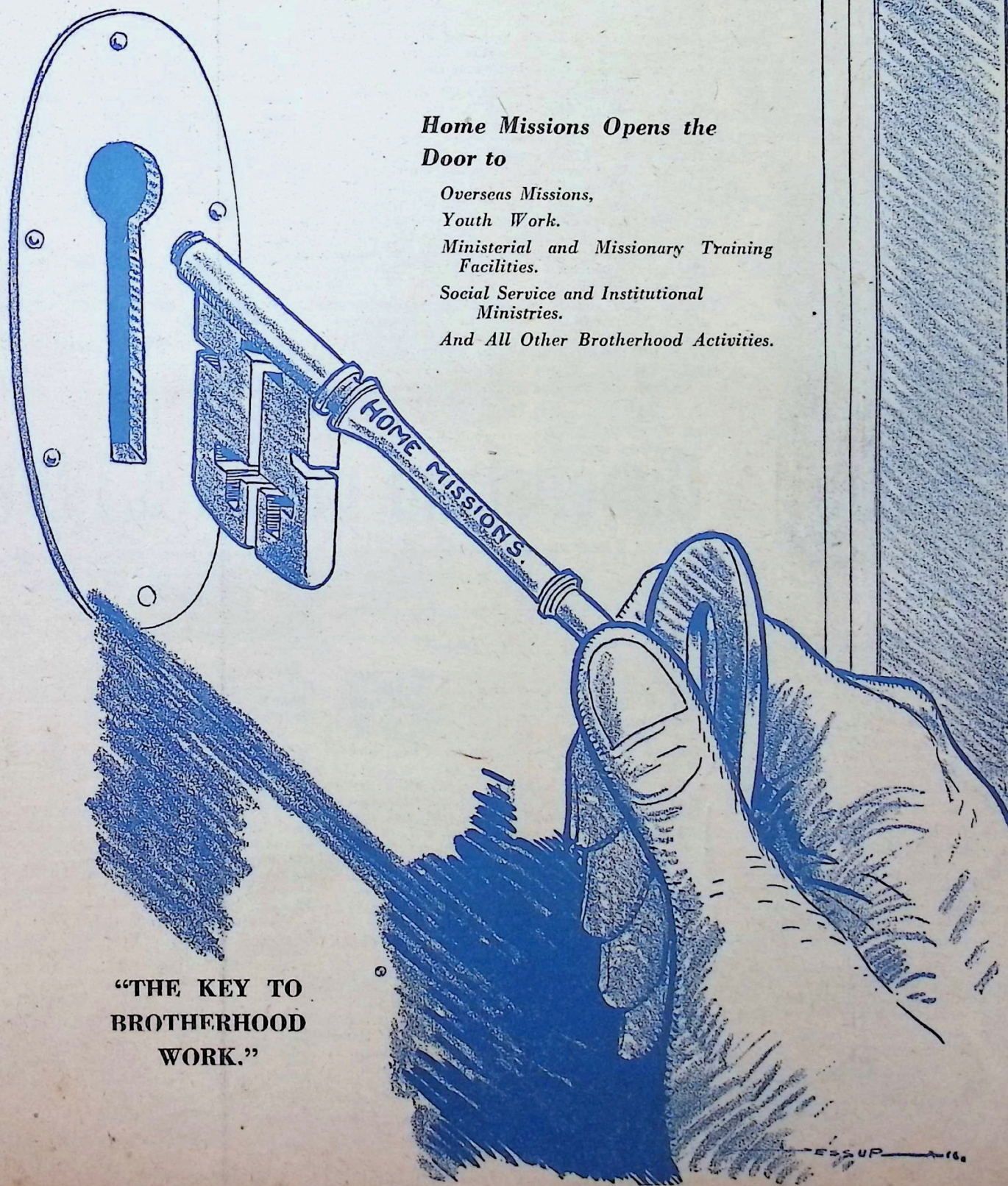
## *Home Missions Opens the Door to*

*Overseas Missions,  
Youth Work.*

*Ministerial and Missionary Training  
Facilities.*

*Social Service and Institutional  
Ministries.*

*And All Other Brotherhood Activities.*



**"THE KEY TO  
BROTHERHOOD  
WORK."**



# A Year of Evangelism

C. Schwab, H.M. Secretary.

## New Appointment

A very important appointment has been made whereby E. P. C. Hollard will serve throughout the State as pastor-organiser. Our brother will occupy a pastorate as vast as the extent of the brotherhood. He will visit, encourage and wherever possible organise isolated members into worshipping groups. Weaker causes will receive much assistance from Mr. Hollard, who will strive to strengthen and lead out into other ventures for Christ. Preacherless churches will have our pastor-organiser in varying periods of interim ministries and be helped in their



E. P. C. Hollard, Pastor-organiser.

efforts to hold the forts pending the arrival of permanent preachers. All churches will share the virile ministry of our brother as he makes contact and represents the wider activities within the realm of home missions. This appointment was authorised by conference, and is thus commended to the whole brotherhood for prayerful and practical support. The brotherhood's endorsement in the terms of a record annual offering will give a tremendous impetus to one of the greatest adventures in the history of home missions.

## Evangelism

Efforts will be made to encourage churches to stress evangelism. Such emphasis should be very productive in view of the fact that during the current year 150 members were added to the membership of home mission churches.

E. C. Hinrichsen has been invited to conduct tent missions in ten different centres. These campaigns under the blessing of the Lord will strengthen the members and multiply their numbers.

## New Ventures

Loxton cause is only three months old and is making good progress. It is full of promise.

Suitable building sites will be available at an early date, and local brethren are eager to erect some accommodation for the church and school which at present meet in the local institute. This big town, 150 miles from Adelaide, on the River Murray, is the centre of a very extensive irrigation settlement. We have a fine group of brethren and sisters ready to pioneer a cause in this important area.

Kapunda is a substantial town located about 50 miles from Adelaide. A few members have recently set up the Lord's Table in the institute. It is believed that from this steady commencement and the loyalty of the faithful few a strong cause will eventuate.

Draper is a temporary housing district on the Outer Harbour line. The famous open-air Bible school has continued through sunshine and shower. A Nissen hut owned by the Youth Department will be erected on land secured by the H.M. Committee. A much wider work will then be possible.

Flinders Park will have J. Baker as their first resident preacher. He will commence in January next. A sliding scale subsidy will assist this very promising cause to become thoroughly established in the midst of an enormous population.

Port Pirie church is to have the assistance of the committee for the securing of a full-time preacher. The co-operation of the brotherhood will greatly enhance the efforts of local members.

Central and Southern Eyres Peninsula affords

opportunity for expanding work now in existence. Port Lincoln cause has made much progress in recent months. West Coast churches are ready to co-operate in a Hinrichsen mission at Lincoln. The appointment of a full-time preacher in the Wudinna circuit is receiving attention.

## Recent Achievements

Naracoorte church has become self-supporting following the Hinrichsen-Perry mission.

Blackwood church will be self-supporting at the end of this year.

Williamstown will assume full responsibility for its own work and that of Kersbrook.

Colonel Light Gardens has become self-supporting.

The brotherhood is asked to approach prayerfully the annual giving day for home missions—Sunday, Nov. 25—and make a special effort to double previous gifts and provide £4000 towards the evangelisation of our State.

To give a great welcome and commencement to E. P. C. Hollard, maintain and extend present work, develop the new causes recently commenced, enter new areas and do all in the name and for the glory of Christ in this year of broad and intensive evangelism, represents the privilege and task of the South Australian brotherhood.

## South Australia's

## Programme calls for

£4000 on NOVEMBER 25

# Queensland needs £1,000

S. Vanham, Secty. Qld. H.M. Committee.

## "It is Nigh Thee"

That was a hopeful and encouraging word which Paul wrote concerning the gospel: "It is nigh thee . . . that is, the word of faith which we preach." For the essential truth that saves, no man has either to scale the heavens or plunge into the abyss. The word of life is nigh thee.

The kingdom of heaven is nigh. The first glad note in the good news was: "The kingdom of heaven is at hand." Jesus told men that the kingdom was amongst them, and to the man who gave an intelligent answer concerning the first commandment he said: "Thou art not far from the kingdom of God."

Eternal life is near. Eternal life is not something to be attained in the distant future after a long and wearying pilgrimage. The great truth about eternal life is this: "He that hath the Son hath life."

God himself is nigh. Tennyson summed up the whole teaching of the Bible on this point when he said of God: "Closer is he than breathing and nearer than hands and feet."

The opportunity of evangelism is near. The disciples were standing in the spot where the ordinary course of events had brought them when Jesus said: "Lift up your eyes and look unto the fields; they are white already unto the harvest." And the first reapings were

gathered right there. To the one who would gladly have gone right round the world with him if necessary, Jesus said, "Go home and tell." And when he started his disciples on the mission that was to encircle the world he urged this: "Beginning at Jerusalem"—that is, at home.

Every possible challenge to the church exists at home. The challenge of sin is here. Iniquity abounds and right at our doors the fires of sin rage and carry out their work of destruction on the men and women with whom we live, work, play, and to whom we are related by all possible ties. The war against sin must begin right where we are.

Unbelief challenges us at home. In the homeland no less than abroad, unbelief is both vocal and aggressive. The tides of unbelief are making constant attacks upon the church and upon the Christian standards we have inherited. The times demand that right here at home the church give an unceasing and vigorous witness.

We have the challenge of ignorance at home. Ignorance of God and of his word is rife everywhere at home. No longer can any preacher take a knowledge of the Bible for granted. A speaker recently told an audience the story of Joseph, and was asked by a seemingly intelligent and fairly well read man, where he could buy the book with that story in it! The gospel is not known to countless men and women who have passed through both secondary and primary schools.

The home field provides every possible opportunity.  
(Continued on page 525)\*

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN



# Not Another Appeal!

EDITORIAL

Frankly, I have had enough of appeals. Scarcely a week passes without my being asked, as editor, to urge this or that claim upon the generosity of the brotherhood. Even in the local church I find no escape. Not only am I expected to act as a publicity agent for the work being done by the various conference departments, but I am no sooner outside the church building than I find myself confronted by a line-up of collectors for this and for that, all with their pencils pitilessly poised. Sometimes I think they must have re-written the poet's famous line to make it read: "Abandon cash all ye that pass from here." Actually I admire them for their devotion, while at the same time confessing to a sneaking sympathy for the man who comes out of church clutching the latest propaganda sheet and muttering: "Not another appeal!"

Now, with Christmas less than two months away and the Budget beginning to bear heavily on us, the H.M. Committees come hopefully along with their annual appeal. And, of course, the editor must write a leading article in support of the offering. Or must he? For the moment I feel rebellious enough to startle the powers that be by saying to the brotherhood—

## DON'T SUPPORT THIS APPEAL!

There—it's out. But before the home mission secretaries catch up with me, there are some things that I really want to say, now that I've started. It's about time that some of the arguments against home missions were given a thorough airing, instead of being merely muttered by the militant.

We're not big enough for home missions, is one contention. We are not a big people, at least numerically, and we are not growing any bigger, or so little as scarcely to be noticed. We tried to spread out too far at a time when consolidation of established work was needed. We frittered away precious resources on lost causes. "Look at this cause or that," some say. "They've been home mission liabilities for years, and never done anything but break a few workers' hearts." Forty years ago H. G. Harward wrote in *The Australian Christian*: "It is not pessimism to declare that the Restoration Movement is making but little progress throughout the Commonwealth." Since then we have built up heavy overhead organisations which are a constant drain on the brotherhood's giving power, without achieving any startling advance.

Well, that's how one argument goes. And when you see it in cold type it's not nearly as impressive as it sometimes sounds. After all, it was only a handful of men before whom their Lord set a programme of preaching "among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem" (Luke 24: 47). And in the book of Acts we have a record of what those few and their converts, filled with the Spirit, did; not what they despaired of doing because they were so few. There was little time for much consolidation of the home base before persecution "scattered them abroad," but there was time enough for some organisation, and for the appointment of men who could report back to Jerusalem on the amazing missionary activity in Samaria and beyond. These early Christians believed that both their Master and his message were big enough for that or any hour, and as H. G. Harward went on to say in the article already quoted: "The cause which lacks the spirit of missions is but a poor representation of primitive Christianity." And as for the glib reference to "heavy overhead organisations which are a constant drain on the brotherhood's giving power," I have yet to discover among the organisers of conference departments of our Australian churches any men whose work is not sacrificial in a very real sense. Expenses are kept at an almost scandalous minimum while maximum leadership is freely given.

But, say the critics, *the local work is so demanding*. We have such heavy commitments; surely they should have priority? There is so much to do in evangelising the area where we are that we shall need all our finance and manpower for the task.—Now, if that argument is as sincere as it sounds it has many virtues. I don't think that our Lord would be very impressed with any church that boasted of supplying brotherhood leaders and figuring high on the list of annual offerings, while at the same time it neglected its own evangelistic opportunities or expected its preacher to struggle along on a pitifully inadequate salary. But my experience has been that the really live brotherhood men are the keenest workers in the local church. The local need was demanding enough in the churches newly planted during Paul's journeys, but the first spontaneous Christian gesture of many of them was the sending of men and money elsewhere, when a greater need arose. Our own New Hebridean Christians to-day are showing the same spirit in their recent magnificent gifts to overseas missions.

But we're talking of home missions, the critics contend, and *home missions have failed*. Look at the vast areas of each State still untouched by the Restoration Movement, and yet home missions were pledged to go into some of these places twenty, thirty, forty years ago. Names still being mentioned as possible strategic centres were in the news then in the home mission numbers of the *Christian*, and nothing was done. The bulk of our membership is still overwhelmingly around the capital cities of each State, as it was then.—Let us grant readily that much which was hoped for many years ago is still undone, but is that the fault of the men who wished to do it, and had their hands tied by lack of brotherhood giving? Fifty years ago Robert Lyall estimated that 3/5½ was the average giving that year for members of Victorian churches to home missions. Has that giving ever been adequate or in any way commensurate to the service of home missionaries like G. B. Moysey, T. Bagley, H. J. Banks, T. H. Scambler, T. Hagger? Where money was lacking men flung themselves into fields of opportunity, and you cannot write off as failure all their resolute efforts. Typical of the home mission "babies" who have grown to vigorous maturity is Bambra-rd. church, Caulfield, Vic. Thirty years ago its then preacher, A. L. Haddon, was writing: "The committee's support made our existence possible"; to-day its present preacher, W. W. Saunders, is in Queensland conducting a mission. Considering the scanty resources, there are many such on-going triumphs of home missions and that evangelistic emphasis which has always been fundamental to its work.

No, none of these arguments can survive even casual investigation. But I would still maintain—don't support home missions!

## BUT GIVE IT ALL YOU CAN!

There's a real difference. Don't treat this home mission offering as an appeal to be supported. This work hasn't reached the stage of needing a crutch. What it wants is men inspired by the cross to treat this, not as an appeal, but as a peal, a clarion call, a thunder-clap—anything that will rouse us to give so that every State H.M. Committee will have enough money and men to tackle its task heroically.

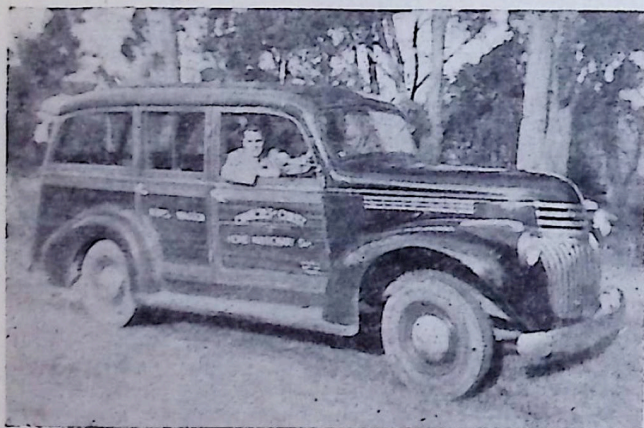
As the Jubilee Year ends, our World Convention Year dawns. What a time for advance! Thirty years ago B. J. Combridge, now H.M. secretary in Victoria, sent this message for the special number of the *Christian*: "We have the message. We'll get the men. Give us the means!" Lovers of the Restoration plea—are we yet ready to say to men like him: "Go up and possess the land; and with our gifts we give ourselves"?



## President's Message

G. E. Burns.

There never was a time when the need for the message of the cross was more urgent. Jesus placed the stamp of urgency upon this age when he said, "When ye see all these things begin to come to pass then know that it (he) is near, even at the door." Peter (2 Pet. 3: 12) says that we should be "looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God." The only way by which that day may be hastened is by the proclamation of his glorious gospel. "This gospel must be preached in all the world and then shall the end come" (Matt. 24: 14). Just as this is the crisis period in the world's history, so also it is the crisis period in the history of New South Wales. God is opening doors where we have never previously been represented. New fields are beckoning; the means of erecting buildings has been provided; the college is releasing young men to do the preaching. The challenge is: "Will we make it possible for our Home Missionary Committee to get behind these needy and challenging fields by giving them a monster offering in 1951?" £2500 would place the committee in a splendid position and enable them to do the work that is calling to be done.



Peter Retchford and recently acquired gospel waggon.

## An Appreciation

R. G. Goode, Principal, High School, Murwillumbah.

During his stay in this district Mr. Retchford impressed us all with his forceful preaching, his diligence in visitation, and ability to adjust himself to varying circumstances.

Members have expressed appreciation of the help and inspiration of his visit, and I should be grateful if you could pass this information on to the members of the H.M. Committee, and accept our gratitude.

## Co-operation of College Board

J. L. Stimson, Chairman College Board.

Recently we recorded that God had supplied trained evangelists through Woolwich College during the last ten years. How marvellous it would be if home missions were so active and productive that Woolwich exits were wholly absorbed in fields opened up by that department! Here is an objective for the brotherhood whose achievement would challenge more young men to train as ambassadors for Christ.

The Board of Management of the College stands unitedly in support of home missions which are complementary to the work with which it is charged by conference.

Let us all pray the Lord of the harvest that every need of the H.M. Committee shall be supplied so that whitened fields can be evangelised.

If we do this earnestly and sincerely, how can any of us fail to respond when the annual offering is received on Lord's day, Nov. 25?

## A Partnership

A. W. Stephenson, M.A.,  
Principal, Woolwich Bible College.

The H.M. Department establishes and nourishes new causes until they are strong enough to stand alone. As a rule a small church seeks the services of a preacher trained at the Bible College, but no matter how able a preacher may be, he cannot help a small cause unless he gets financial assistance or support. Even if the wage he needs is not large, still a struggling church is not able to pay the full amount.

So here is a field where there is an opportunity, and here is a man trained for the task; what prevents the work going forward? The answer is money. The H.M. Committee bridges this gulf. By supplying finance, by helping select a suitable preacher, and by giving careful oversight, this committee is doing a vital missionary task.

Together, then, the college and the H.M. Committee are serving in the spread of the kingdom.

I give full endorsement to the plea of the committee for funds to develop urgent work at the annual offering on Nov. 25.



Peter Retchford, itinerant evangelist, has just concluded a mission at Bexley North. The meetings were held in the tent, and created much interest. There were 6 decisions and 5 reconsecrations. A number were left on the point of decision. One convert was an ex-Roman Catholic. He is desirous of preaching the gospel and is making application for admission to college.

## The Challenge Presented

N. D. Morris, Chairman.

*God Does not Challenge*—as regards the offer of salvation and the gift of his Son as the Saviour, and the efficacy of the death of Christ on the cross. He has said his final word and leaves it to man to accept or reject—he is God!

*Man can Challenge God*—either actively by deliberate word or action, or passively by the ignoring of his pleadings as contained in the scriptures. Hence the need of

*Home Missions*—which is the church at work, carrying out the Master's commission to convince men and to convert them through the Word that "he that believeth and is baptised shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be condemned," thus conveying to man that priceless heavenly pronouncement, "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy." This, then, is the challenge to us to-day—to accept the available opportunities to present the claims of Christ to those who are "building their house upon the sand."

# Tasmania

## Go Home and Tell

(Mark 5: 19.)

C. R. Edmunds, Chairman, Tas. H.M. Committee.

There is a threefold motive that should inspire all Christians to be actively interested in the work of home missions.

### Gratitude to God.

The man from the tombs in the country of the Gadarenes whom Jesus healed was so grateful that he wanted to go with him, but he was sent to "go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee." Here is the challenge to each individual Christian to help with prayers, presence and practical support in the spreading of the Gospel throughout the land.

### Regard for Human Need.

All about us there are those who need the Saviour. On every hand are slaves to sin, who must be brought into conscious relationship with Christ if they are ever to be released from this bondage. God has ordained that this should be "through the foolishness of preaching." "How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent?" Very pertinent questions these, driving home with irresistible force that we all have a part to play by helping to provide the means to enable preachers to be sent out.

### To Promote the Cause of Christ.

He says, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." A Christian who is not missionary-minded is a withered and shrivelled soul. A church that is not missionary-minded is a disgrace to Christ. All who have seen Christ's compassion for the lost, who have seen him in tears for those who rejected his overtures of mercy, who have heard of the

## OUR GREAT DAY - NOV. 25

Evangelistic Missions.  
Itinerant Evangelists.  
Assisting Churches.  
Supporting Enterprise.  
New Marquee and Equipment.

Teaching Missions.  
Gospel Waggon.  
Encourage Small Groups.  
Literature Distribution.  
Visitation.

**Make Our Needs £2000**



# Home Missions Justified

## Does Home Mission Effort Bring Results?

A. D. Pyne, Sec. W.A., H.M. Committee.

Of course it does. As we look back we find case after case of churches which have been supported by the H.M. Committee in their early years, have attained self-support, and have gone on to play a vital part in brotherhood affairs.

The H.M. Committee is the agency whereby you can help to further extend the kingdom. Your offerings provide the resources for subsidising preachers in new fields. But do these labors and offerings ever bear fruit? Look at some recent cases.

### Eastern Wheatbelt.

About 15 years ago the W.A. H.M. Committee was pouring money into a work in the Eastern Wheatbelt. For years it was a burden on the

## Challenges

joy among the angels of heaven over one sinner that repenteth, must be anxious to please God by enlisting in the crusade for Christ. We must continually look for the opportunity to "speak just a word for Jesus."

### The True Perspective of Christian Missions.

"Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth." The earliest disciples were commanded to begin the preaching of the gospel in the home town—Jerusalem. After that they were to extend into Judea and Samaria, and into the regions beyond, even the uttermost parts of the earth. The same is still true to-day. Build a strong home-base first, then, from that foundation, reach out to all the world. That is how it goes, and any other method results in loss of balance.

### Tasmania for Christ.

This is, and always has been, our aim. It should be the aim of every church member. It is both practicable and possible. It can be done. The Acts of the Apostles begins about A.D. 30 and ends about A.D. 63. In that 33 years the gospel had been taken to Philippi, Greece, Rome, and even to far-off Spain, in spite of difficulty, in face of fierce opposition. They travelled it all on foot, with the Vision Splendid ever before them. Never looking back, never pausing to count the cost, always pushing forward, they carried the gospel from Jerusalem to Spain in one generation!

There's the challenge, brethren. What will be your answer, when the home mission annual appeal is presented to you on November 25? "Tasmania for Christ" or —?



Many of us become greatly discouraged and impatient that our civilisation makes such slow progress. Well, about the only progress that is rapid is progress down hill. (Selected.)

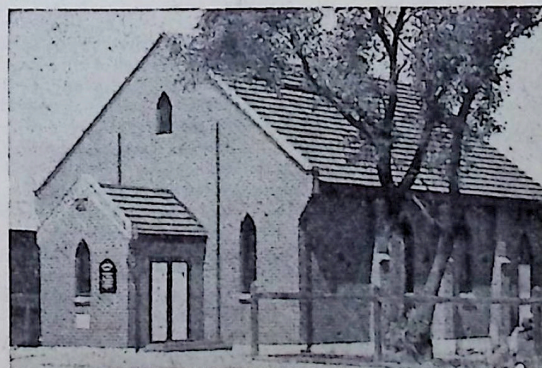
committee, and caused considerable discussion. Was it worth while? Would it ever come to anything? Expenses were heavy, and there was little to show in return. But C. H. Hunt, the pioneer evangelist, had implicit faith in the ultimate success of the work and the committee kept on. T. D. Maiden followed. A fairly strong church, had been built at Naremburn, and a manse erected. Over 100 miles away Mukinbudin was beginning to feel that it, too, might be able to support a preacher. Just a few years ago the wheatbelt work became self-supporting, and the faithful brethren and sisters began to look to Merredin, the geographical centre of the circuit. F. Griffiths followed T. D. Maiden, and then last year came L. G. Cooke from Tasmania. A second man came into the circuit with the coming of H. R. Fitch to Mukinbudin. The work has prospered, and the stewardship of the country brethren is a revelation. The Hinrichsen-Perry mission concluded at Merredin with a total of 83 decisions and restorations. The whole circuit has been inspired and enthused, a property has been purchased in Merredin, and negotiations are under way for the calling of yet another full-time preacher to the circuit. What is the point of this story? Simply this: the triumphs of to-day might not have been achieved, had it not been for the steady support of the H.M. Committee in the early years. To-day we rejoice with our Eastern Wheatbelt brethren.

### Northern Wheatbelt.

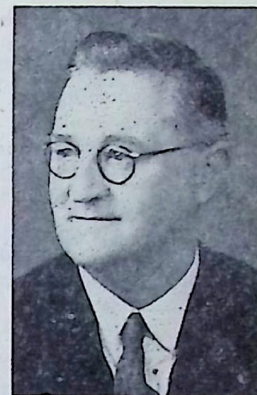
Another instance. Five or six years ago the H.M. Committee answered a call from the Northern Wheatbelt at Gutha and Pintharuka, and a subsidy was made available for a trial period of six months. B. Clapp was the first preacher in the area. The months lengthened into years—God prospered the brethren and they were not slow to show their gratitude to him. They gave portion of their crop to his work. In July this year they became a self-supporting church with F. Fewster as full-time minister, provided with a house and new car. To-day a strong cause is being established in the district—another example of the fruits of early home mission support to a faithful group of the Lord's people.

### Suburban.

Are these exceptional cases helped by particularly fortunate circumstances in country districts? Well, come a little closer to the city.



Chapel at Wembley Park, W.A.



C. H. Hunt.

Twelve years ago by direction of conference a building was erected and a church established at Wembley Park, a suburb four miles out of Perth. In 1945 the church sought a subsidy to help engage a minister. This was readily granted. In 1950 the church became self-supporting and its members have played no small part in brotherhood affairs.

### Other Fields.

Yes, home mission effort does bring results, and we look for a substantial offering this year to continue the same kind of work. Other fields are calling. For years we have had calls from Geraldton, a large town with but a handful of members. It will take a lot of money and effort and prayer to develop that field. Victoria Park and Carlisle have agreed to form a suburban circuit, and will need help in the initial stages, at least. There are much improved prospects at Midland Junction, with the new adjacent area of Midvale, but much expenditure would be needed to try these places for an extended period.

Other churches at Nedlands, Palmyra and Claremont are being subsidised with the idea of establishing them as strong, self-supporting churches, which will in turn be able to help others in adjacent new areas. We have more preachers in country districts than we have ever had before. Harvey became self-supporting a few years ago. To-day we are subsidising churches at Bunbury and Collie, the latter having been without a preacher for many, many years. Because there are men in these centres, Bridgetown now has the opportunity of more frequent visits, and the faithful few there have been greatly encouraged.

We look, too, for the time when we shall have a full-time State evangelist to help in the development of present fields and the establishment of new ones.

Oh, yes, there is much to be done! Will you help? And when you make your offering, will you remember just how much your £ is worth compared with ten years ago? An offering of at least £700 is required to equal a prewar one of £350. Will you remember that, and give to the Lord as he has prospered you?

The real front line of evangelism to-day lies not within the church itself, but rather within the homes and work-places of the people. That puts the responsibility where it belongs—on us all. (British Weekly.)



# Victoria - Why £4,000?

## 10 Reasons Why Home Missions Must Go On

F. N. Lee, Chairman.

1. Because without assistance from the rest of the brotherhood through home missions 80 per cent. of the churches in Victoria would not have become self-supporting.
  2. Because in the last four years six churches—Ormond, Springvale, Shepparton, Drumcondra, Hamilton and Warrnambool—have been assisted to become self-supporting.
  3. Because we are heavily committed in three centres—Maidstone, Morwell and Preston East—to assist these young churches to become established.
  4. Because we are committed to assist 28 other churches to carry on their work.
  5. Because there are over 1000 scholars in the Bible schools associated with home mission churches.
  6. Because there were 53 decisions for Christ last year in home mission churches.
  7. Because there are a number of churches that should be receiving assistance from home mission funds, but our present income is not sufficient to allow us to accept these extra responsibilities.
  8. Because there are a number of strategic points where we should establish new causes if this generation is to follow the example of our pioneers.
  9. Because this year home missionary activity has reached a new peak—there are more preaching points being serviced by full-time preachers than ever before.
  10. Because next year's programme calls for a special evangelistic effort in every church in the State, in addition to several major efforts in home mission churches, and a big combined mission with the Snodgrass-Pollock American mission party.
- The Home Missionary Committee has planned in faith, believing that the brotherhood will respond. £4000 is needed to carry through this programme for 1952.

## The Voice of Experience

Six past presidents of conference—members of the H.M. Committee and men who know of what they speak—offer vital messages. Their appeal is supported by the fact that 84 of our 120 churches have at some time received assistance from the H.M. Department.

This fact alone is positive proof that home missions has been the dominant force in brotherhood advance. It is equally obvious that the very stability of the brotherhood, to say nothing of its continued expansion, depends upon immensely increased support for home missions. Here are their messages:

Country men say: D. A. Cockroft and J. A. Wilkie



Chapel at Hamilton, Vic.

Continuous home mission support for 20 years has helped Hamilton to self-support this year. Minister: C. W. Jackel.

Preachers declare: A. E. Hurren and A. B. Withers.

Practical Men Speak: A. W. Cleland and G. L. Murray.

During my term as conference president it was my pleasure to tour our country churches, when I made it my business to learn as much as possible of their historical background. I found that the outstanding factor behind the great majority of country churches has been home missions.

I strongly appeal to country members, in these days of increased prosperity, to be generous in the interests of home missions and repay our debt.—D. A. Cockroft.

In recent months three churches formerly assisted from our funds became independent—

## The Alternatives

Of every 10 Victorian churches 7 have received home mission assistance.

These churches now supply funds to all conference departments.

Thus home missions has been the primary supply base for all brotherhood enterprise.

Tremendously increased financial support for home missions is the only alternative to a serious threat to the whole structure of brotherhood.

Drumcondra, Hamilton and Warrnambool. This enables us to assist other churches. We consider our outlays in Morwell a sound investment. "How much owest thou unto my Lord?"—J. A. Wilkie.

Home! How dear to the heart, whether it be a mansion or a tiny cottage. Homeland is similarly sweet to those who go abroad, but both are sweetened by the influence of Christ. Everybody who loves his homeland will want to help the H.M. Department to see that this message is proclaimed in every part of our State.—Arthur E. Hurren.

Before I knew anything more of home missions than that some preachers were home mission preachers, I became interested in the committee. That early interest has had no small influence upon me ever since. Now, of course, I see the many commitments and responsibilities of the committee, and have a real appreciation of the thought and energy which men give, and have given, to the furtherance of the gospel in this State.—A. B. Withers.

My experience convinces me there is a misconception as to the function of home missions. The belief is growing that its important task is providing relief for churches with depleted membership. Surely our vision is larger and more embracing! The early church was the missionary department—evangelism by preaching the word—consider the activities of Paul in establishing churches. All departmental growth largely depends on the home branch of missionary work. Without expansion into new fields—mobile units—radio, the Restoration Movement fails and our plea for Christian union becomes a dying cause.—A. W. Cleland.

How shall we measure our personal responsibility for home missions? Because the basic wage has increased by about 35 per cent. over the past year, and salaries, adjusted to it, comprise the major item of cost, and other costs

are in proportion, a corresponding increase in offering will only maintain existing fields. To embrace any opportunities for progress an increase of 50 per cent. is required. That is a fair minimum measure of our privilege and responsibility.—G. L. Murray.

## Home Missions in Theme and Scheme

Mrs. A. B. Withers, Pres. Women's Conference.

In one phrase Jesus gave us both theme and scheme for what we know as home missions. That phrase is "beginning at Jerusalem." He took it, in idea, from the prophets. It was a word of God.

The law was to go from Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. In that fact Jesus saw the course of the gospel, "... and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth." Here was (and here still is), a scheme by which the gospel can be sent upon its long way and to the furthestmost point of its journey.

The beginning for the gospel is where we are, then out into the far reaches of humanity. "Beginning at Jerusalem" therefore becomes the theme of home missions, the theme for the carrying out of the project of preaching the gospel to the whole world.

The scheme is in operation. The cause of home missions is at work. The theme abides—and to this and its outworking the forthcoming appeal recalls us.



## A Voice from the Past

Fifty years ago Thomas Hagger, who was destined for almost another half-century of Christian service, much of it in the interests of home missions, wrote:

"With such great need for country work, the question which confronts us is, How can this need be met? We want a home missionary enthusiasm—an enthusiasm that will laugh at difficulties and cry: 'It shall be done!' We want an enthusiasm for this work such as Dr. Duff had for Indian missions. In 1866, after spending 25 years in India as a missionary, he was found in Scotland with a broken-down constitution, and while addressing the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church fainted away. When he recovered he remembered that he had not finished his speech, and asked to be taken back. Those about him tried to persuade him not to go, but he cried: 'I will do it if I die!' He was carried back and made one of the most powerful appeals for India ever heard. Lord, give us a home missionary enthusiasm like that!"



Chapel at Warrnambool, Vic.

Supported intermittently by home missions since 1907 and constantly since 1939, Warrnambool is now self-supporting. Minister: T. V. Weir.



## HERE AND THERE

Material for this special issue was gathered by Victorian H.M. secretary, B. J. Combridge. Some church reports, items of interest, and our regular feature, "Minister's Musings," have been held over until next issue.

After an extended visit to her daughter and son-in-law, Mrs. and Mr. A. B. McDiarmid, of Loveland, Colorado, U.S.A., Mrs. D. E. Pittman arrived back in Australia on Oct. 29. A few days were spent in Sydney as the guest of Principal and Mrs. A. W. Stephenson at Woolwich College, before she returned home to Hampton, Vic., on Nov. 3.

In conjunction with the Victorian H.M. Committee and the churches at Footscray and Maidstone, a tent mission is planned for Ballarat-rd., Maidstone (nearly opposite Richelieu-st.), from Nov. 18 to Dec. 16. Lloyd Jones, of Bundaberg, Qld., will be the missionary, with Ken Alexander, of St. Kilda, as song leader. The mission secretary, T. Hampton, 18 Essex-st., Footscray, will be glad to hear of plans for personal help and prayers, and for delegations from sister churches.

About 120 enthusiastic choristers gathered at Lygon-st. on Oct. 25 in response to the invitation of the World Convention Music Committee, thus initiating the choir which will lead the singing and provide the special music next August. The World President, Reg. Enniss, introduced the Choir Director, Valentine Woff, who then led the singers in several anthems. Any experienced singers wishing to join the choir must register with the Music Committee secretary, F. Lewis, 2 Denham-place, Toorak, S.E.2, Vic. (phone, U7525), as soon as possible, as there is only limited accommodation at the Town Hall, and it will be necessary to close the list soon. District rehearsals will commence early in the New Year, with occasional full rehearsals to co-ordinate matters.

There were 62 decisions up to Oct. 28 at the Hinrichsen-Perry mission, Kalgoorlie, W.A. Bentleigh church, Vic., continues to appreciate support of sister churches in the Jackel-Haskell tent mission.

Adverse weather affected attendance at the Victorian Churches of Christ Ladies' Choir concert on Oct. 23, given at Lygon-st. chapel in aid of the Will. H. Clay Nursing Home. However, an excellent programme was presented by the choir and assisting artists, and proceeds are expected to exceed £20. Mr. Clay, who chaired the concert, expressed the appreciation of his committee to Miss Pittman and her choir, who have raised more than £160 in the last 8 years.

The marriage took place on Oct. 31 of Dr. Ralph Clark and Sister Lesley Hemley, both of Alfred Hospital, Vic. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Reg. Clark, of Malvern-Caulfield church. Dr. Clark has just completed successfully his post graduate examination at Melbourne University for the degree of Diploma of Anaesthesia. In addition to this distinction, he has been awarded a Nuffield assistantship to Oxford University for two years. Dr. and Mrs. Clark are to leave for England on the *Stratheden* sailing on Nov. 27.

Will church reporters and other contributors please note that, owing to a holiday in Victoria on Nov. 6, it was necessary for this issue to go to press on Nov. 2. A further holiday on Nov. 13 (Victorian Centenary Day) means that advertisements for next issue must be in hand by first mail on Nov. 8.

An exile in Japan for the time being, Mr. Young Bin Im, secretary of the Korean Bible Society, works steadily on preparing the revised

Korean Bible for the press. As soon as the way opens up no time will be lost in re-establishing the organisation of the Bible Society in Korea, where the work was forced to a standstill following the destruction of the Bible House in Seoul.

The Victorian Local Option Alliance reports active work in opposing applications for hotels. Since 1907 hotels have been reduced from 3507 to 1665—by more than half, and Victoria has now twice the population.

### DIAMOND JUBILEE, HENLEY BEACH, S.A.

From the small beginnings of a Bible class, initiated by the late H. D. Smith in 1881 in response to a request from two young men, there has developed a fine work at Henley Beach, S.A. During October last a very successful S.S. anniversary preceded an inspiring week of jubilee meetings. Features included a film night on missions, a pageant of youth, thanksgiving day, and historical survey. Both services on Oct. 21 featured a thanksgiving hymn by F. Collins, set to music by Duncan McKie, Mus.Bac. (son of former minister). 160 sat down to tea on the Sunday night. The Northern District Male Quartette and S.S. choir supplied stimulating music, while leaders and speakers at meetings included A. R. Jones (former minister), H. G. Norris (former S.S. scholar), A. Anderson, D. G. Hammer, C. Schwab, H. P. Manning, A. E. Brown and F. Collins. The mayor, mayoress, aldermen and councillors attended the crowded public meeting.

## State Newsreel

Ethelbert Davis, N.S.W.

During the month of September the church at Burwood conducted a series of meetings featuring the New Testament plea. The meetings were held on each Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday evening throughout the month. The speakers were: A. Baker, Geo. Burns, W. J. Crossman, E. Davis, A. G. Elliott, R. Greenhalgh, A. C. Maclean, I. A. Paternoster and A. W. Stephenson. All the studies proved helpful.

The half-yearly conference was held at Wollongong on Saturday, Oct. 13. The sessions were well attended. "Things Surely Believed" was the conference theme. R. V. Amos spoke on "The Spirit of the New Testament Church," and Principal A. W. Stephenson dealt with the subject, "Beliefs of the New Testament Church." Musical items were rendered by Wollongong. These conferences are proving helpful as they are held in towns outside Sydney.

It is some time now since a chapel was built in a day in this State. Recently, at Cardiff, in the Newcastle district, a church building was erected in one day, leaving only the finishing touches for a future Saturday. On Sept. 8 the building was officially opened for worship.

J. W. Brookes closed his ministry with the churches at Gosford-Toowoona Bay, and has commenced with the church at Canley Vale.

Geo. Burns, conference president, is conducting a Bible conference with the church at Lismore, extending from Oct. 28-Nov. 4.

An extensive work is now being done in what is known as "The Mountains." The group of churches there are Lawson, Wentworth Falls and Blackheath. A. L. Carter has had charge of the work in those places, and now has the assistance of J. Benjamin, a student from the Woolwich College.

A vigorous campaign of protest against the opening of picture shows on Sunday is being conducted by many of the churches and other Christian organisations. Permission to open these shows is being given by the Chief Secretary.

## Missionary News

Notes supplied by A. Anderson, Sec. F.M. Board.

### Sickness and Storm.

The people of Bytora village on Maewo, have recovered from the effects of measles, but seem to be slow to pick up again. When the hurricane raged they were unfortunate and many lost their houses. The sea swept across the village and carried them away, and many were left homeless. We had a good house there in which we used to live when staying for a few days at Bytora, but it went to sea with the others, so now we have to sleep in the church. Owing to sickness after the blow the houses have not yet been rebuilt, and many are living in temporary places which are most unfit for human habitation.

### Active Women's Work.

The women of the church at Nasallakora have made a special house for their women's meetings which are held Friday each week. On Friday, July 13, very significant, we went officially to open the place and hold the first meeting. The Grace made a trip Thursday and another on Friday with about 50 women from Ndui Ndui, and we went in the *Sunbeam* on Friday morning. It commenced to rain about half past nine in the morning and simply poured hour after hour. Fortunately for us we landed just before the rain commenced, but the Grace and passengers were caught in it and most were soaked. Some were so wet that they decided to swim ashore, fully clothed, instead of waiting for the dinghy to row them ashore. We waited for hours for the rain to cease but it failed to do so, and because we had to return to Ndui Ndui before dark, those present held a successful service and prayed God's blessing on the efforts of the women. An offering was taken for the food appeal for the Korean children. After a two-hour journey we arrived home at five o'clock, the weather still drizzling.

### Maewo Baptisms.

At Nissowa church, on the Island of Maewo, there were two baptisms on Sunday, July 22. A middle-aged man and his wife who had been away from the village for many years working on a plantation in Vila, returned home to Nissowa and finally yielded to the preaching of Isaiah. The wife was born in the Banks Islands, but married this Maewo man, so now lives on Maewo.—Harold and Mary Finger.

### Island H.M. Work.

A plan that has received consideration among our island Christians for some years was discussed fully at the recent inter-island conference, where 15,000 attended, and a thankoffering was taken of £2000. This reveals the earnestness of the people to do forward work. For several years visits have been made by some Aoban Christians to relatives who have settled on the northern end of Santo. These Christians became the focal point to reach some heathen groups, who were asking for instruction. As a result of these earlier efforts nine people were baptised.

In September a delegation of eleven men left for the area, and later were followed by two launch loads of men and goods. The intention was to commence a more active drive among the heathen groups surrounding this area. Some of the deputation have now returned to Aoba and report a very successful mission. Two churches were opened and nineteen people baptised. The prayers of the brotherhood are requested as our island brethren seek to preach the gospel to their own people. This is a new phase in the work, and one that all missions ardently long to see.



# INTERSTATE C H U R C H N E W S

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

## Discipleship

Graham Cox, Henley Beach, S.A.  
Elaine Henshilwood, Hampton, Vic.  
Graham Egar, Swan Hill, Vic.  
George Warren, Swan Hill, Vic.  
Dorothy Chivell, Warracknabeal, Vic.  
Gordon Fisher, Hurstville, N.S.W.  
Coral Carslake, Balaklava, S.A.  
Aileen Minney, Balaklava, S.A.  
Margaret Minney, Balaklava, S.A.  
Howard Long, Balaklava, S.A.  
Miss S. Watson, Footscray, Vic.  
Geoff Baker, Footscray, Vic.  
Norma Smith, Footscray, Vic.  
Gordon Smith, Footscray, Vic.  
Alex. Smart, Footscray, Vic.  
Neil Thomas, Footscray, Vic.  
Lynette Smith, Balaklava, S.A.  
Gwen Lock, Balaklava, S.A.  
Laurie Grigg, Balaklava, S.A.  
Joan Dick, Balaklava, S.A.

## Membership

Mr. and Mrs. A. Parker, Ringwood, Vic.  
Mr. and Mrs. R. Morffew, Ringwood, Vic.  
June Martin, Lane Cove, N.S.W.  
Beth Stephenson, Lane Cove, N.S.W.  
Lee McWilliams, Sunshine, Vic.  
Tex Bartholomai, Ma Ma Creek, Qld.  
Mrs. Craddock, Cowandilla, S.A.  
Mrs. Longford, Cowandilla, S.A.  
Lorraine Campagnara, Cowandilla, S.A.  
Joan Manglesdorf, Cowandilla, S.A.  
Maureen May, Cowandilla, S.A.  
Kerry Murcott, Cowandilla, S.A.  
Peter Douglas, Cowandilla, S.A.  
Stanley Frisby, Cowandilla, S.A.  
Kenneth McCulloch, Cowandilla, S.A.  
Laurance Oliver, Cowandilla, S.A.  
A. Whitehead, Cheltenham, Vic.  
Ray Loader, Maryborough, Qld.  
Mrs. Noege, Mile End, S.A.  
Mrs. Hillier, Mile End, S.A.  
Mrs. Clayton, Mile End, S.A.  
Joan Oscher, Mile End, S.A.  
Margaret Grant, Essendon, Vic.  
Valerie Pearce, Essendon, Vic.  
William Ayton, Preston, Vic.  
Irene Irby, Bambera-rd., Caulfield, Vic.  
Helen Lees, Bambera-rd., Caulfield, Vic.  
Neil Lynch, Bambera-rd., Caulfield, Vic.  
John Dawes, Bambera-rd., Caulfield, Vic.  
Ron Jackson, Bambera-rd., Caulfield, Vic.  
Mr. and Mrs. G. Lord, South Richmond, Vic.  
Grace Lord, South Richmond, Vic.  
Mrs. Skene, Thornbury, Vic.  
Mrs. Cunningham, Footscray, Vic.

## Fallen Asleep

Mrs. I. J. Scott, Lenswood, S.A.  
Mrs. Amy Ward, Thornbury, Vic.  
George Thomas Flitton, Geelong, Vic.  
Miss H. Hermann, Carlton (Lygon-st.), Vic.  
Frank Abbott, Brooklyn Park, S.A.  
Mrs. Lillian R. Cowan, Hurstville, N.S.W.

## Marriage

Barbara Hansen to Len Linfoot, Beverly Hills, N.S.W.

## Western Australia

**Kalgoorlie.**—Hinrichsen-Perry mission is being supported splendidly. By fifth week there have been 51 confessions and restorations. Mr. Riches, of Mission to Lepers, has spoken to C.E. and B.S. A film left a deep impression of need of lepers. Sympathy is expressed to E. C. Smith and L. Hicks upon sudden passing of their respective brothers.

**Maylands.**—Anniversary services of B.S. were held on Oct. 14 and 21. The kinders were presented with book prizes and Cradle Roll enrolment and birthday cards were given. S.S. choir was led by H. Short. W. Smith (supt.) chaired meetings, and C. Robinson, of Bassendean, and Mr. McRoberts were speakers, and prize-giving was held on Oct. 16. Mrs. Quantock, of Red Cross, addressed Women's Guild at last meeting. Sisters have contributed tins of food, and Mrs. Rule has forwarded two parcels to missionaries in India. A surprise 21st birthday party was given to Les Grist on Oct. 13. Mesdames Rhodes, Bell, Mathews, Bryan and Ruscoe are sick.

## New South Wales

**Earlwood.**—On Oct. 14 D. Mansell and A. Hinrichsen were speakers. On Oct. 21, A. Hinrichsen spoke at both services and Miss Rochester was soloist at gospel service. Boys' and girls' clubs, under F. Strickland and Gwen Wilkinson, gave Pendle Hill Boys' Home a social on Oct. 20. Many members are ill, but large attendances continue.

**Hurstville.**—At B.S. anniversary on Oct. 14, guest speaker was J. Henderson. B.S. demonstration was held on Oct. 16 and prizes were distributed. Church anniversary was held on Oct. 21, when A. W. Stephenson spoke at worship service. Guest soloists and instrumentalists and well trained church choir conducted by N. V. Hooper made enjoyable P.S.A. F. D. Craig gave gospel message. Temple day offering was over £100.

**Padstow.**—15 months ago work commenced here with twelve members. Framework of building done by volunteer labor is up on 100 ft. block right at station. The members meet weekly for cottage prayer meetings. Six Padstow churches combine monthly for prayer meeting and fellowship tea, each church taking turn at providing speaker and president.

**Kingsford.**—Morning preacher on Oct. 14 was Principal A. W. Stephenson, M.A., of Woolwich Bible College. Attendances at Lord's Table are being well maintained. Local church paper is serving community. B.S. is undergoing re-organisation following anniversary. Y.P.S.C.E. has been enjoying good meetings. Mr. Elliott commenced series of studies on Christian Unity at the midweek meetings. Men's service was conducted on evening of Oct. 21. Sympathy was

extended to Mrs. Dravine in passing of her mother.

**Beverly Hills.**—B.S. anniversary services were held on Oct. 21, 27 and 28. 27th was demonstration night and presentation of prizes. Speakers were Messrs. Bartholemew, Henderson, Turnell and Cavell, and duets by Ralda Cook and Olive Walker, and J. Dickson and G. Morris. H. G. Nixon was conductor and Mrs. Ferguson pianist. Kindergarten roll is now 100 with Olive Walker superintendent. Picnic was held at East Hills.

## South Australia

**Lenswood.**—Annual business meeting was held on Oct. 7, when all officers were re-elected. S.S. anniversary was held on Oct. 21 when Messrs. Ingham and Pearson, from Maylands, gave messages. Mrs. Ingham presented scholars' prizes at close of afternoon meeting.

**Strathalbyn.**—Good services were held during October. Town jubilee celebrations and "back to church" on Oct. 7 brought many past members into fellowship. A. H. Wilson (past minister) was preacher at morning service and I. Durdin presided and welcomed visitors. New baptistery was dedicated by I. Durdin at close of service, and a thankoffering of £30 was received. Ladies' Auxiliary also donated £30. H. Filmer gave illustrated address at morning service on Oct. 14 and A. McMurtrie gave gospel message. I. Durdin and Mrs. Durdin continue to serve church faithfully. Mrs. B. Nettlefold and Mrs. H. Passfield are leaving district. Ladies' Auxiliary presented them with tokens of remembrance.

**Ungarra.**—Attendances have been good. Mr. Whitmore addressed church on Oct. 21. B.S. held anniversary on Oct. 28. All auxiliaries are progressing. Church extends sympathy to Telfer family in loss of their mother.

**Balaklava.**—Church anniversary services were held on Oct. 14 to 15. At supper on Monday evening farewell was said to Miss Helps, who returns to missionary work in India. Members honored Barbara Woolford on her 21st birthday. Marjorie Shepherd brought "Echoes of Sydney C.E. Convention" to October sisters' meeting, when offering was given for Christmas cheer for Old Folks' Home.

**Brooklyn Park.**—During anniversary week all members inspired for another year of service. Help of Croydon choir and Williamstown Male Choir added to success of meetings. B.S. picnic was held at National Park.

## Victoria

**Surrey Hills.**—During September church celebrated its 61st anniversary when G. T. Fitzgerald (Box Hill) and Reg. Enniss were visiting speakers; Keith Hall (Balwyn) was soloist at evening service. Anniversary "oldtime" social was organised by G. L. Murray. October is "Everybody's Month," and H. Earle is featuring everybody's favorite book of the Bible, text, and hymns. Choir and soloists assisted presentation of slides on Oct. 14. Good Companions' Club recently held "Father and Daughter" night. Joyce Evans is club leader. Painting of chapel and school hall have greatly improved property. Special thanks are due to Keith Dexter, W. Yates and T. Veale for organising and preparing materials for the effort.

**Hurstbridge.**—Members support meetings well with 20 on roll. College offering was £6. Fairfield young people journeyed to Hurstbridge on Oct. 12 for bonfire and testimonies. Church appreciates services rendered by Fairfield members.

**Caulfield (Bambera-rd.).**—Chas. Cole has commenced interim ministry in absence of W. W. Saunders who is leading mission with Too-woomba, Qld. Church honored Miss L.



# IN MEMORIAM.

**MOORE.**—In loving memory of Harry, died Nov. 4, 1932, also Bessie, died Oct. 26, 1931; loved husband and daughter of Margaret, father and sister of Sam, Jim, Mavis and Jean. Until he come.

**KING.**—Treasured memories of my loving husband David, who fell asleep on Nov. 10, 1950. Lovely sleep until the resurrection morning.  
—Loving wife, Margaret.

# DEATH.

**SPAULDING.**—On Oct. 26, at his residence, Nubeena, Tas., George Leslie, beloved husband of the late Lottie Spaulding, and loving father of Marc. In his 76th year.

## BORDERTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST. OPENING OF NEW CHURCH HALL, DECEMBER 2, 1951.

"Back to Church."  
Former members especially invited.

## FEDERAL COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE, GRADUATION AND ORDINATION SERVICE, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23.

Lygon Street Chapel, at 7.45 p.m.

Ordination Address: J. A. Wilkie.

Presentation of Diplomas.

Farewell to Miss K. E. Taylor (returning to India).

Make this a great brotherhood meeting as workers go out to service.

## CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP ASSOCIATION. (Established 1935—Inc.)

The sixteenth annual meeting of C.F.A. will take place in the School Hall, Lygon-st. Church, on Friday, Nov. 16, at 7.45 p.m.

Business: To receive Annual Report and Balance Sheet.

W. T. Atkin, Secty., 241 Flinders-lane, Melbourne, C.I.

Tel., MU2104, Cent. 1678.

## MT. EVELYN 4th ANNIVERSARY SERVICES, in PRESBYTERIAN BUILDING near POST OFFICE, BIRMINGHAM RD.

Sunday, November 11.

11 a.m., visiting speaker.

6.45 p.m., A. H. Pratt.

Cut up basket lunches at "Kenarthem."

## CHURCH OF CHRIST, SWANSTON ST., HOMECOMING DAY, NOVEMBER 11.

11 a.m., K. A. Macnaughtan.

3 p.m., E. H. Watson.

7 p.m., K. A. Macnaughtan. Choral service.

We invite you to come and spend the day with us in happy fellowship.

## OAKLEIGH CHURCH OF CHRIST SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY SERVICES, to be held in the TOWN HALL, DRUMMOND ST., OAKLEIGH, on November 18, 1951.

Speakers:

3 p.m., G. Barnett.

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

Special singing by scholars at all services.  
Conductor, Mr. G. Thomson.

## HOLIDAY IN ADELAIDE.

Bed and breakfast. Reasonable terms. Apply Social Service Dept., Bible House, Melbourne. MU2104. Not available between Dec. 23 and Feb. 18.

Costello on eve of her marriage by gift evening and social. P.B.P. recently won the basketball premiership. Fellowship is being enjoyed with Mrs. Saunders, sen.

**Preston.**—During church anniversary services on Oct. 21, F. N. Lee (conference president) addressed morning service and J. E. Searle conducted evening service, when a number of strangers were present. Choir rendered two anthems and Mrs. B. Quaife sang solo. At annual business meeting on Oct. 18, reports indicated all activities in good condition. Treasurer's balance sheet showed finances satisfactory. Appreciation of services of T. Salisbury (completed 25 years) was expressed. All retiring officers were re-elected. Men's Society enjoyed a film night given by F. Lewis, formerly of Fisheries and Game Dept.

**Essendon.**—Mr. Longford spoke on morning of Oct. 7. On Oct. 14 Good Companions met for tea and took part in evening service. Miss J. Turner (camp leader) gave a short talk. On Oct. 19 B.S. scholars took part in a concert given by S.S. of district to raise funds for District Memorial Hospital. Mr. McIlhagger spoke at all services on Oct. 21 and male quartette rendered item at evening service. Mrs. McIlhagger is progressing after recent operation. D. Hainsworth (sen.) is laid aside through illness. Members of C.M.S. are working on toys for Christmas tree.

**Malvern-Caulfield.**—Attendances have improved and messages of Wilkie Thomson are instructive and helpful. Two have made good confession. Anniversary services were addressed by L. Brooker (afternoon) and Wilkie Thomson (evening). Singing was led by Mr. Whibley. A welcome home was extended to Mr. and Mrs. F. Illingworth after period abroad, and Mr. Illingworth talked on their experiences. Mrs. Hall and family have removed to Castlemaine. Appreciation was expressed and good wishes extended at farewell social gathering.

## QUEENSLAND NEEDS £1000.

(Continued from page 518)

portunity for Christian service and witness. The extent to which we can meet the call that comes to us from further afield depends upon the degree to which we are meeting the challenge at home. If the church weakens at home the work will surely weaken abroad. So the H.M. Committees set up by the brotherhood in Australia bring their annual challenge to the churches and say of the need for aggressive evangelism, "It is nigh thee."

In Queensland the committee, after assessing its present position and the calls coming for help from all parts of the State, is asking for not less than £1000 to be given in the offering on Nov. 25. This is not set as an aim with the hope that we might get somewhere near it. It is a statement of the actual amount needed to right our finances and at the same time help to put four preachers into fields where their services are urgently needed.

The challenge of the work at home must be adequately met if we are to meet the challenges coming to us from every quarter of the globe. Upon the vigor of home evangelism also will depend our capacity to meet the needs of Christian youth so insistently urgent to-day. And only a vigorous work in the homeland will make it possible for the church to make the application of the gospel through the many avenues of social service now opening up. Churches stimulated through home mission enterprise will prove an ever increasingly fruitful source for the supply of the men and women who are needed to continue the work begun by our Lord and his apostles.

May God grant that the churches will rise to the challenge of the fields that are nigh.

## TO LET.

Sorrento.—All electric two-room flat. Water, accommodate four. Vacant Mar. 6, 1951-April 10, 1952, April 16 onwards (not vacant Easter).—Claude Gadge, 49 Springfield-rd., Blackburn, Vic. WX5494.

Holiday shack, Sorrento, accommodate four, water, electric light, £2/10/- per week. Vacant Oct. 12-Nov. 16, April 16, 1952-May 16, 1952, May 27 onwards (not vacant Easter).—Claude Gadge, 49 Springfield-rd., Blackburn. WX5494.

## WANTED.

Elderly Christian lady desires unfurnished room. Good references. Reply to 39 Youngman-st., Preston, Vic.

Buy and Post Early!

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with a Christian Greeting.

Choice Folder Cards with Scripture Texts and Messages which bring out the real meaning of Christmas. An envelope is given with each Card.

## A FEW SELECTIONS FROM OUR STOCK:

Scenic and floral designs, size 3½ in. x 4½ in., 3d. each.

Floral Cut-out designs, size, 4 in. by 5 in., 4d. each.

Cottage and Country Scenes (various), 6d. each.

Better cards, some embossed, 9d. each.

Packets of six, assorted, 2/- and 3/- packet.

Packets of twelve assorted, 4/- packet.

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100 . . . . £2/9/6 to £4/6/8.

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### TEXT FOR THE WEEK.

*The truth is that we neither live  
nor die as self-contained units. At  
every turn life links us to God, and  
when we die we come face to face  
with him. In life or death, we are  
in the hands of God.—Rom. 14: 7, 8  
(Phillips).*

### THOUGHT STIMULUS.

*God offers us a partnership with  
himself in building his world. Too  
often we treat him as a sleeping  
partner.—Dr. James Reid.*

# In the Sanctuary

## THOUGHTS ON THE LORD'S SUPPER.

To that upper room of long ago and far away,  
that quiet sanctuary amid the clash and clamor  
of the world, the heart of Christendom continually  
returns. But we must see it against its true back-  
ground of deep encircling shadows, as we gather  
to the holy table now, conscious that the setting of  
our feast to-day is a world tossed with tempest  
and darkened with dreadful tragedy.

Then is this thing we are doing here relevant?  
What is the use of an hour like this, with these im-  
mense, insistent worries and perplexities hammering  
at the door? Are we not guilty of a retreat from  
life?

Let us go back for a moment to that upper room.  
Let us ask, Was *that* relevant? In Caesar's ar-  
rogant, uproarious world of vice and force, had  
*that* any meaning? One thing, at any rate, we  
can say: it has lasted better. It has outlived em-  
pires. It had the stuff of eternity in it. I submit  
that at the very least, we can say that anything  
which has proved itself so enduring must have a  
strong case for present validity. It would seem  
to be relevant. Can we go further? I think we  
can.

First, it has *the relevance of power.*

Look at the little group of disciples gathered  
round the table that night, facing a world that  
dealt in crucifixions, concentration camps, martyr-  
doms. What was their most urgent need? Was it  
not power? And as the dear, familiar voice went  
on speaking to them so intimately, every quiet  
word was adding on to them something more of  
the resources of God. He was putting his very  
Spirit into them. And to-day, in this service, we  
are not playing at ritual in a crashing, heedless  
world. We are here for the power that is going  
to help us face the dark more manfully.

Second, it has *the relevance of judgment.*

Jesus kneeling with towel and basin, breaking  
the bread, speaking words of infinite tenderness  
from a heart of peace—how these judge the world's  
pride, selfishness, hatreds and fears. Here you are  
showing forth the Lord's death. You are declaring  
that the values which that death enshrined—mercy,  
pity, peace and love—are on the throne of the  
universe, life's ultimate realities.

Finally it is *the relevance of eternity.*

The world which lay beyond the little circle of  
light where Jesus sat was a death-haunted world.  
But here was Jesus, on the night in which he was  
betrayed, meeting man's grimmest fear, and can-  
celling it out for ever. That upper room not  
relevant? I begin to wonder whether anything  
else is relevant compared with this, in a world that  
still knows the bondage of the fear of death. Come  
unto me, says Jesus, and I will whisper to you in  
this sacrament the secret of death's defeat, the  
shining secret of the communion of saints! And  
you shall find rest for your soul. (Abridged from  
J. S. Stewart, in *The Strong Name*.)

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## Obituary

### Mrs. Ellen V. Shaw.

On Sept. 18, after long and painful illness, Mrs. Shaw, a daughter of the late James and Eliza Dewar, of the church at North Melbourne, Vic., found relief in her home-call. At North Melbourne, as Nellie Dewar, she was an active member of the church, Bible school and C.E. Society. On the death of her parents she moved to Maylands, S.A., and took up residence with her sister, Mrs. F. Collins. For the past 25 years Mrs. Shaw was a member of Essendon church, Vic. While she was able, she was actively associated with the Women's Guild. She was a life-long supporter of all brotherhood work and regular in her attendance at the Lord's Table. During the many months of her suffering E. F. McIlhagger, Chaplain C. Young, and the sisters of the Essendon church ministered to her with great devotion. She was laid to rest beside her parents at Fawkner Cemetery by Mr. McIlhagger, who was assisted by Mr. Will. Clay, a friend of the family. To Mr. Shaw and her sister, Mrs. F. Collins, the sympathy of the church at Essendon and sorrowing friends is tendered.—W.H.C.

In commemoration of the nineteenth centenary of Paul's arrival in Greece, the British and Foreign Bible Society has issued a special edition of Acts of Apostles in Ancient and Modern Greek in parallel columns. The American Bible Society's contribution has been a new illustrated copy of Acts.

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## Fifty Years Ago

Excerpts from "The Australian Christian" of  
NOVEMBER 7, 1901.

Editor: A. B. Maston.

Brighton S.S. Anniversary, Vic.—The school never sang better. M. W. Green gave the Lord's day talk to the scholars and friends, and at the tea meeting distributed the prizes, when Mr. Mahon also spoke. Their services were much appreciated. Teachers are faithful, scholars interested, and the prospects are as bright as the promises of God. Our Mutual Improvement Class had a visit from Nat Haddow and singing party last week. The visitors supplied the entire programme, which proved delightful to all. (F. M. Ludbrook.)



M. W. Green.

From Here and There.—During the last week there have been 15 confessions at the Fitzroy tent meeting, Vic., making 33 in all. The meetings are still proceeding. . . . At Strathalbyn, S.A., where H. J. Horsell has been ill, we are pleased to report that, after a short holiday, he intends to resume preaching next Lord's day. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Mackay, who left Queensland for Scotland in April last, passed through Melbourne last week for Merewether, N.S.W., where they expect to make their future home. Joseph Frazer, formerly of Merewether, is now on his way back from Scotland to his old home.

Our W.A. Letter.—A strong attempt is being made here to influence the Federal Parliament against the proposal to bring the divorce laws of the Commonwealth down to the level of those of Victoria and New South Wales. All the Protestant bodies of Perth were represented in a meeting of ministers to oppose it, and the feeling was unanimous. . . . One of the advantages of a sea trip is the formation of acquaintanceships. Recently a vessel with 400 teachers of both sexes on board, bound from the United States to the Philippines, put in at Honolulu, where no less than 30 couples were united in matrimony! It must have been a smoother passage from America to the Sandwich Islands than I had from Adelaide to Fremantle. However, the contemplation of the thirtyfold result above stated may serve to render the sea trip more attractive to any who are thinking of coming this way from the East. (D. A. Ewers.)

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