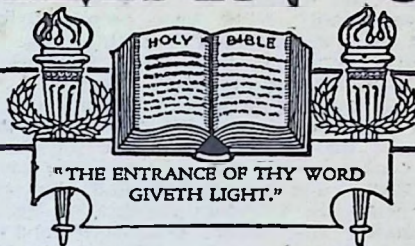


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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 1941.

Christ's Triumphant Finish.

G. J. Andrews.

WHEN the Lord Christ was crucified some kindly women offered him a drink of wine and myrrh, their crude form of anæsthetic which they usually gave to all such sufferers to dull the senses. There are cases on record, of those who drank so heavily of this drugged wine as to be utterly intoxicated when the nails were driven through their flesh. Jesus knew the kindly intentions of the women; indeed, he tasted the contents of the vessel, but he refused to drink. He had no wish to sleep his way into death; rather would he spend his last hours with unclouded brain. What great words and actions would have been lost but for this heroic refusal!

But when the agonies grew most intense, he cried, "I thirst," and at once a soldier ran and dipped a sponge in the sour vinegar wine which the soldiers drank. Upon a reed the sponge was put up to the lips of Jesus. So it was from the lips of one in full possession of his faculties and recently refreshed that there broke at last the triumphant cry—just one word, "Tetelestai!"—"It is finished!" Then, as John adds, "He gave up the ghost," not as one who has his spirit torn from him, but as one who voluntarily gives it up. He said, "It is finished!"

I.

As we think on this word, it occurs to us that some folk can seldom cry with any splendid intensity, "It is finished!" They commence to do many good things, to work, to love, to adventure, to build, but they lack the

Power to See Things Through.

We may fairly allow for all injustice and misfortune in outward circumstance and yet mark very distinctly that the real tragedy is lack of character. As Harry Emerson Fosdick remarks, "Good starters and good stayers are not necessarily the same people. Plenty of people are equipped with efficient self-starters. They get off the mark easily. They are off with a fleet eagerness that awakens high expectations, but they peter out; they soon stick in the sand or stall on the hill." The story is told of the world-famed scientist, Michael Faraday, that at the close of one day he dropped a tiny screw. Because the twilight was falling, his assistant suggested they give up looking for it, saying, "It is of no consequence; I will find it for you in the morning." Whereupon Faraday replied, "It is of no consequence that I have not the screw until the morning, but it is of infinite consequence that I am not defeated in my habit of never stopping until I succeed in the thing I have set out to do."

"Patient continuance," as the New Testament has it, the power to see things through, is a vital element of character. So we have Christ's warning: "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have suf-

ficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him, saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish." We have our Lord's encouragements too: "He that endureth to the end shall be saved." . . . "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee the crown of life." But best of all, we have the Master's aid and example. Who will deny that Jesus had a most difficult course and a hard conclusion to face? If he had given up even in Gethsemane, unable to finish, all his teaching would have been forgotten, his wondrous works would have dropped into oblivion and his life divine would have been marred and wasted. The glory of his eternal achievement lay in his power to conclude at Calvary with the triumphant, "It is finished!"

II.

Yet, when we take into account that these words fell from the lips of a young man of some thirty-three years, is it not a strange cry? We are impelled to question,

But is this a Completed Life?

We had likely thought of it in the symbol of the tragic broken column. Jesus brings to us the true view of the completed life—not completion of quantity but of quality.

It is impossible to read the Gospels at all carefully without being impressed with Christ's sense of vocation, showing quite strongly, even in the boy of twelve: "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" All through his young manhood his sense of mission was evident in words and deeds: "The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." "To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness of the truth." Jesus felt that he was born for a task, and so lived not for mere years but for the true achievement of his mission.

It is not otherwise with any of us, if we learn of Christ the true view of life. "It has been said," to quote Sir William Robertson Nicoll, "that the work of Stephen's life was apparently to deliver half an hour's speech and that perhaps in divine predestination there is for each of us just one special thing to do before we die. Could we see our life as God sees it, we should see everything radiating from that. Once it is accomplished God's purpose has been fulfilled and eternity breaks through upon time." Let us think well before setting a broken column over the grave of youth.

III.

Dr. W. M. Clow reminds us that when James Stewart, the engineer of the African Lakes

Company, had almost completed the Stevenson Road along which the Gospel and civilisation would afterwards pass into the heart of the continent, he was stricken with his last fever. He lay down to die in a small hut near the northern terminus of the road. He suffered much pain, but his spirit had a singular elation. He seemed to look out in imagination along the highway and get a glimpse of the future traffic upon it. As he fell asleep in Christ he had also that word on his lips which was an echo of the Master's cry, "It is finished!" Time after time he had been tempted to give up because of the difficulties of the survey and the obstacles placed in his path both by fever and other pitiless foes; but he had kept on his way in the strength of God, and the victory was won. The task was completed.

So the cry of Jesus is at once a sigh of relief, a shout of victory, a call to the Father, and a proclamation to men. For it is only on the basis of what Christ has completed that

We are Now Able to Begin

the glorious adventure of eternal life. God's preliminary signs and symbols of the old Jewish order are all fulfilled and overpassed. Sin's ransom price has been paid. God's sanctifying truth has been brought to men. The faith-inspiring and saving Gospel has been completed.

What a red-letter day it was for Hudson Taylor, for China, for the world, when this grand realisation came to him. As a lad in his teens he had been left to care for the house while the rest of the family were on holiday. He found time hanging heavily upon his hands, and in aimless sort of way wandered into his father's library to poke about the shelves. "I tried," he says, "to find some book with which to wile away the leaden hours. Nothing attracting me, I turned over a basket of pamphlets and selected from among them a tract that looked interesting. I knew that it would have a story at the commencement and a moral at the close; but I promised myself that I would enjoy the story and leave the rest. It would be easy to put away the tract as soon as it would seem prosy." Going off to the stable-loft he threw himself down on the hay and commenced reading. He was captivated by the narrative, and found it impossible to drop the paper when the story came to an end. He read on and on. Then came the unforgettable phrase, "The finished work of Christ." The idea entranced him. He rose from the hay, then knelt on the hard floor and surrendered his young life to Christ the Saviour. Thus he writes: "There dawned upon me the joyous conviction that since the whole work was finished and the whole debt paid upon the cross, there was nothing for me to do but to fall upon my knees, accept the Saviour and praise him forever more."

The greatest task ever undertaken in the world was that commenced for the first time by Jesus the Christ, and what it has enabled us to begin our eternal life as sons and daughters of God.

Turning Preachers into Teachers.

WE recently reported the introduction of religious instruction in the State schools of South Australia. A writer in the "A.C. World" has the following interesting paragraph on the probable results of the new venture: "The effectuating of recent legislation giving ministers of religion the right to impart religious instruction in State schools is likely to produce some quite unexpected results. Most ministers, of course, knew that new duties would be thrust upon them, but possibly few realised what a call would be made upon their time by the insistence of headmasters that not more than one half hour per day can be given to this work, and that as far as possible all grades shall be instructed during the term. Were it not that laymen and laywomen can be authorised to teach, it is questionable whether the task could be encompassed; of these the services of quite a number of competent persons have been secured. Already the need for special equipment for the task is being realised, and it is almost certain that classes for instruction in method will command general support. Not a few acknowledged able preachers are finding it quite another matter to hold the attention for half an hour of a class composed of anything from fifty upwards of keen young Australians. The teacher is likely to be taught many wholesome truths, and may be, to be all the better for the discipline."

Not all preachers are good teachers, and there are good teachers who do not excel at preaching. But the value of a teaching ministry is very great. The ideal thing would be to have men who can do effectively the two things required by our Lord—preach and teach.

Character and Culture.

IN her "Ballade in G. Minor" Ethel Boileau wrote: "Character to-day is out of step with knowledge; and man, who has made science serve his purposes, has not culture enough to see that those purposes shall be worthy of his destiny."

We certainly hear enough of kultur or culture in these modern days, and of true culture we cannot have too much. But there is culture of the spirit, as well as of the mind and the body; and with reference to the first there is much tragic neglect. In recent months we have often thought of Ethel Boileau's words. Character certainly does lag behind knowledge. Regenerated hearts and strong Christian character are ever needed; and education and culture cannot take their place. It is the church's task and privilege to secure these essential things which are being sadly neglected in the world of to-day.

And This is 1941.

IN one of our exchanges recently we came across a solemn question and answer. The query was: "Is it wrong for women to read in the Bible classes and ask and answer questions?" Whatever the intended implications of his reply, the answerer wrote truth when he gave his judgment: "The teaching of the Bible in the classes, such as are usually conducted on the Lord's day, is not a part of that which is to be done in the regular assembly of the church for the Lord's day worship, and as such, women are not forbidden to have part in reading, teaching and discussion."

It is a pity that with our great Christian heritage of truth and service, there should be many people still bothered with needless fears and doubts and questionings.

"The Most Fateful Day."

IN our recent reading of a book dealing with the 1914-1918 war, we came across a sentence beginning: "On the most fateful day in

history I was in —." The writer meant well, but he succumbed to a very common temptation of emphasising by exaggeration a thing which impressed him. Every week or two we may hear some sermon taster announce with pleasure his listening to "the greatest address I ever heard." For some people anything good is "the best ever," anything big "the greatest," anything beautiful a rival of the glories of the new Jerusalem. To return: "the most fateful day in history" did not wait till 1914 was ushered in. We recall those great days of the calendar which are pre-eminent for Christians—the days of our Lord's advent, crucifixion and resurrection, and that great day when the Christian dispensation was inaugurated, the church established, and the Holy Spirit given as the abiding guest of the children of God. There are other very great and fateful days; but to us these are the chief so far.

At the Table of the Lord

AN ABIDING WITNESS.

"As often as ye eat this bread, and drink the cup, ye proclaim the Lord's death till he come."—1 Corinthians 11: 26.

THE Supper has been an abiding witness to the death of Christ. Its celebration can easily be traced to the early years of the second century, and beyond that is the record of the New Testament. Closing an elaborate historical treatment of the evidential value of the Supper, Sir William Muir wrote that "no other fact in ancient history at all has any evidence of like continuity to sustain it, such as the Gospel narrative of the Supper has." Through the centuries the celebration has proclaimed to sinners Christ's love for them.

To witness for Christ is the duty and privilege of every Christian. There are numerous ways of giving testimony. Were it to be given by pulpit oratory or public utterance alone, many humble Christians would feel disqualified. The church has suffered from the idea that Gospel proclamation is limited to preaching from pulpit or platform, and from the consequent thought that only a limited number is qualified to witness. Some timid souls find it very difficult to testify in words. It is good to think that there is a preaching suited to all, in which the testimony of the humblest follower of Christ is as clear and effective as that of the highest. The apostle Paul refers to this witnessing, in the giving of which all Christians are on a level of equality, when he writes: "As often as ye eat this bread, and drink the cup, ye proclaim the Lord's death till he come." It is stated that during the American Civil War a woman followed the army carrying a flag. Some scoffed at her, and asked what good she supposed she could do. Her cogent reply was, "Well, I may not be of much use, but at any rate I can show which side I am on."

The Supper was not ordained to benefit the church alone; it is a means appointed by the Lord of proclaiming his death to those for whom he died. Christians who neglect the Saviour's dying request to meet and remember him not only deprive themselves of the spiritual blessing which the Lord has designed us to receive at his table, but also neglect the duty of witnessing—so far as this ordinance can witness—to the glorious Gospel of the blessed God. If in no other way we can preach, we can in this. The Gospel is enshrined in the Supper, and sinners are dying for want of that Gospel. For their sakes, as well as for our own, let all of us who are Christians heed our Master's gracious invitation, "This do in remembrance of me."

"No Gospel like this feast
Spread for thy church by thee,
Nor teacher nor evangelist
Tells the glad news so free."

Australia and Post-War Reconstruction.

BIBLE SOCIETY APPEAL.

THE powers of evil, let loose upon a horrified humanity, are tearing our much cherished civilisation to shreds. How much of the world we have loved will be left when the blast of war dies down, we cannot tell. Yet all is not lost; God is still on his throne. By the eyes of faith we see a new world rising phoenix-like from the ashes of the old. However, we must prepare for this new era if we would benefit by it. Neglect to do so would mean impotence in the face of opportunity.

The British and Foreign Bible Society, in its world-wide activities, by the grace of God, has passed safely through a hundred wars, although none so terrible as this. Surrounded by smouldering ruins, the London Bible House still stands and its many activities continue. Yet the work of the society has suffered both at home and abroad. Some Bible Houses have been destroyed, others occupied by the enemy. Editions of the Scriptures, too, are exhausted and must be replenished.

When the war is over funds for reconstruction and restocking will be required. Having this in view, the Commonwealth of Australia Council at its annual meeting held in Melbourne on March 11 and 12, decided to open a fund for this purpose, to be called "The Post-War Reconstruction Fund," and to appeal to the Christian public to contribute to it.

This fund is now open, and monies received for this purpose will be deposited in a special banking account and kept untouched until the end of the war. The signal flag is flying: "Jesus Christ expects every man to do his duty." We are sure that every Bible-lover will help in the great task of spiritual reconstruction. Australia is again to the fore, setting an example to the Christian world.

Contributions earmarked for this purpose may be sent to the General Secretary at the Bible House, Adelaide, Brisbane, Launceston, Melbourne, Perth or Sydney.

The Greeks and the Hebrews.

AN interesting article by Dr. C. I. Benson on "Greek and Hebrew" in the Melbourne "Herald" said that "Greece and Palestine, two little lands washed by the blue waters of the Mediterranean, have more deeply affected the life of the world than any other nations." At the close Dr. Benson wrote:

Looking back over Greek history, I always feel that I can discern God's providential hand in it preparing the way for Christ. He came "in the fulness of time," as Paul said. The jauntiness of Greek life had faded away, and they were realising that sin and pain had to be faced—that the facts of life were too desperate to yield to an easy philosophy of the happy life.

By the time Christ came, Greece had prepared a tongue, a universal language, by which the message of Jesus could be given to the world. The New Testament was written in Greek. The most beautiful book in the world is the Gospel by Luke—a Greek physician.

Only two days before Christ died on the cross, some Greek admirers came to see him. What was his message to these Greek seekers? "Verily, verily I say unto you, Except a grain of wheat fall into the earth and die, it abideth alone; but if it die, it beareth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it, and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it, unto life eternal." Why he addressed them so abruptly is not made clear by the narrative. He may have spoken in response to some unrecorded question.

It has been suggested that they were persons of wealth and distinction who, seeing that the Jews had finally rejected him and that his life was in peril, sought to save him by offering him a safe residence beyond their reach. Or again, it may be that he was deliberately

contrasting the Greek attitude to life with his own.

Jesus laid down unflinchingly a principle of life which to the Greeks was sheer foolishness—not self-preservation, but self-sacrifice as the way to life. He not only stated the principle, but he reasoned it, showed that it is as rational as the laws of gravitation or growth.

It was this message that Paul took to Greece and proclaimed in Athens and Corinth. One of the loveliest passages in literature is 1 Corinthians 13, and we repeat the 15th chapter as we lay in the grave all that is mortal of those we love. Let us remember that these epistles to the Corinthians were written to Greek Christians.

Jesus harmonised the Greek love of beauty and the Hebrew passion for God. He loved birds and flowers and all this fair world as much as any Greek. He had a poet's ear for words, and yet he became obedient even unto the cross. There was the breadth of the Greek and the depth of the Hebrew in him. Greek and Hebrew complete and perfect one another. Greece without Zion becomes putrid; Zion without Greece becomes hard and narrow. Self-culture, self-expression, undisciplined by religion, become morally corrupt; religion which ignores self-culture degenerates into morbid asceticism.

Philip Doddridge caught the true Christian sense in his poem—

"Live while you may," the epicure would say,
'And seize the pleasures of the passing day!'
'Live while you live,' the sacred preacher cries,
'And give to God each moment as it flies!'
Lord, in my views let both united be;
I live in pleasure when I live to thee."

Wollongong.

HOW Wollongong has been overlooked by the Churches of Christ for so many years will always be a mystery. It is a delightful city, beautifully situated between mountains and sea. It is the shopping centre for a population of 60,000 people.

Now we are beginning to rejoice. At our first meeting we had 12 local people present. Last Sunday (April 20) there were hundreds at our night meeting.

So far 36 have made the confession. This is splendid when it is remembered that there was no church, school or preacher in the field prior to the mission. Audiences are very encouraging. People are very keen.

By the blessing of God a church of about 100 members, perhaps more, will be left here at the end of the mission.

Land is very expensive. We have paid £525 for a central position. A brother from Sydney kindly gave £300. Building operations commence immediately. A fine brick structure is being erected. We plan to open the building on Sunday, May 18.

The new church would be encouraged much by gifts from brethren able to help. We have a very big task on our hands. If we had not built in brick ours would have been the only wooden church in the town. Help us in this great new venture. It is going to be a great cause. Bro. D. Stirling, from Albion, Qld., has accepted the call to this field. He will be encouraged, too, if you help. In faith he accepts the call, not waiting to see if it will be self-supporting and ready made for him. His pioneering spirit should be encouraged.

Please send something this week to E. C. Hinrichsen, c/o Post Office, Wollongong. Do not say, "Many will send." They don't. Maybe no one else will send! You be the exception, and send a little of the extra you earn because of the war. It might not be honorable to keep it. Thank you!—E. C. Hinrichsen, director of evangelism and missions for N.S.W.

P.S.—If you can't send an offering, send a telegram for the opening. I have been telling the new members of our big brotherhood spirit.—E.C.H.

Our Young People

Conducted by Keith A. Jones.

MAKING THE MOST OF HOLIDAYS.

At Frankston.

LYGON-ST., Carlton, young people held their fourth annual camp at Easter with 16 young ladies and 17 young men in attendance. Friday morning, before breakfast, found a number gathered on the seashore for "quiet times." The morning sessions commenced with a song-service followed by a camp prayer hymn, "Lead me to Calvary." Our studies this year were a continuation of the series commenced at our 1940 camp, "The Lord's Return." The study leaders were Bren. John Mann, John Rankin, Cecil Houston and Rupert Hing.

On Easter Sunday morning we attended the worship service with our brethren at Frankston. In the afternoon Bro. Rupert Hing led a discussion, and Bro. Norman Jame gave an address at the gospel service on "What is the New World Order?" In response to personal invitations to the service, 12 strangers attended this service. A feature of this camp was the contact made with our brotherhood camps in New Zealand, N.S.W., S.A. and Tasmania, and copies of letters sent and letters received in reply were read each morning. Our social programme was in the hands of Bro. Neil McKenzie, who arranged for our entertainment. Looking back, we thank God for all the blessings of our Easter camps.—V.N.J.

At Yackandandah.

Albury young people held their first camp at Yackandandah during Easter, and thoroughly enjoyed the period of fellowship and study. The camp was in charge of Mr. H. I. Walmsley, our preacher, with Mrs. Jantzen as camp mother. Each morning and evening Mr. Walmsley led us in devotions. These times were greatly enjoyed by all campers. Each day we held studies on the subject of "Life Problems," followed by very profitable discussions in which many took part. A memorable occasion was the communion service on Easter Sunday morning. This was held in the open air with the sunshine streaming down upon us and lighting up with beauty the nearby hills and valleys. In that lovely setting God seemed very near and communion was real indeed. At night we held our service around a camp fire. Although short everybody voted the camp a long-to-be-remembered experience.—A.C.

CONFERENCE ON YOUTH WORK.

THE Victorian Council of Religious Education made good use of the Anzac Day holiday by arranging an inter-denominational conference on youth work. There was a representative company in attendance. At the afternoon session the subject of "Ways of Extending Our Youth Work" was dealt with by C. E. Tapp, of the Camberwell Congregational Church. This was followed by group discussion, and some very valuable suggestions were made. Following a basket tea, K. A. Jones presided over the meeting, when representatives of the seven religious bodies on the council gave reports on "What we are Doing To-day." These short talks provided a fund of information and inspiration for all present.

The evening meeting gave consideration to the vital subject, "Ways of Deepening Our Youth Work." Through (1) Worship, (2) Bible study, (3) Personal fellowship with Christ." The speakers on these subjects were C. H. Murray, Miss C. M. Forster and A. J. Grigg respectively. Vespers led by Colonel Ede closed a most stimulating and profitable conference.

Unprofitable Servants.

Luke 17: 7-10.

Prayer Meeting Topic for May 7.

H. J. Patterson, M.A.

THE disciples had asked for greater faith. Whether that faith was more than faith in our fellow men we do not know. Even that seemed an impossible thing, and especially so if it involved unlimited forgiveness of an offender. Perhaps what they asked for was something even beyond that, a faith to remove mountains. What we do know is that Jesus had exhorted them to good works, and now lest they should tend to glorying in their great exploits he tells them that such is not fitting to the servants of God.

Works Do Not Justify.

Jesus describes the conduct of the average master—a fairly hard man. "A nobler kind of master is described in 12: 37, and one more like Jesus himself. But God often seems in his dealings with us hard and inconsiderate (cf. Luke 19: 21, 22), and we are to serve none the less to the uttermost point of his demand, and when we have done so entertain no high thoughts of ourselves. We have simply done our duty." There seems little place in this for the idea that our works shall justify us a place in heaven or that in their merit we may have life everlasting. Nor does there seem much room for the doctrine of "works of supererogation," i.e., that merit for works done can be stored up either for our own benefit or for the good of others such as the Roman Catholic church teaches. Jesus seems to say that even if you did your best you only did what was your duty.

We are Unprofitable.

In that we owe everything to God, for he bought us with the precious blood of his own Son, we are not profitable. God did not need our aid to increase his own might or power. He could have got along without our aid. He could have conquered the world of men and brought them into subjection without us who make up the church. He chose not to do that, however. Even our best services are mixed with imperfection. The forgiveness of one who has sinned against us is a difficult thing, and if we do forgive there seems something of a residue which makes it an imperfect thing. Even the greatest and most challenging of lives are no more than what we all should give to God for his saving and keeping power. Life eternal so freely given cannot begin to be thought of as something comparable with what we have done. What God does for us is far in excess of the best we can do for him. Too often we look at life as that which is to contribute to our selfish interest. We demand of God so much in return for so little when it ought to be a consideration of what our duty is to God. Looking at it from a rational point of view, we must say we are unprofitable servants.

God's Servants.

We must not forget that we are God's own, and he is gracious. "He treats those who are slaves as if they were free hired laborers, and recompenses their labors with a reward, and receives their service which is strictly due, as if it were meritorious and gives a requital out of all proportion to the toil. Thus the goodness of God is stronger than his justice" (Euthymius). The best way to be a profitable servant in God's eyes is to have a sense of our unprofitableness. This will lead on to a greater devotion and a finer sense of duty. All we can do we ought to do for him who redeems us.

TOPIC FOR MAY 14.—FAITH'S BOLD REQUEST.—Psalm 26.

Queensland Conference.

T. G. H. Westwood.

THE fifty-eighth annual conference commenced in Ann-st. chapel on April 9 with a fine congregation. Delegates were present from as far north as Charters Towers and as far west as Roma. 16 country centres were represented, and there was a full representation from all metropolitan churches.

The opening session was a youth rally, presided over by Mr. H. J. Payne, chairman of Young People's Department. Mr. A. J. Fisher, of Gympie, spoke on "A Vision of the Kingdom," his address being in support of the general theme of conference, "Bringing in the Kingdom." Items by young people from metropolitan Bible schools, supported by a young people's choir under leadership of Miss Helen Trudgian, made the evening a very pleasant one.

Preachers' Session.

Preachers from all parts of the State met on Thursday. Following a devotional session led by Mr. Giezendanner, of Charters Towers, Mr. A. Anderson, from S.A., delivered a timely address dealing with Far Eastern questions.

Fellowship Tea.

At a brotherhood fellowship tea, held at the close of women's conference, the acting president, Mr. W. A. C. Wendorf, welcomed visitors, making particular mention of Messrs. Arnold, Fisher and Giezendanner, newly appointed preachers in the State. Mr. A. Mills, representing Council of Churches, and Mr. Jack, representing Queensland Temperance League, brought greetings. Catering arrangements were excellently carried out by the women's conference.

Overseas Missions Rally.

Mr. Wendorf presided at the demonstration on evening of April 10. This session was well attended. In addition to the presidential address, delivered by Mr. Wendorf, a special feature was the address of the guest speaker, Mr. A. Anderson, who spoke of our missions in India, China and the New Hebrides.

General Conference.

The first business session commenced on Friday morning, April 11, at an early hour. Hendra and Nanango churches were admitted to conference.

Sympathy was expressed for Bro. R. L. Williams, whose illness had compelled him to relinquish the work at Ann-st. Considerable improvement in Bro. Williams' health is reported.

Conference decided to invite the Federal Conference to Brisbane two years after forthcoming conference in Adelaide. It is also hoped to hold the next half-yearly conference at Roma. The difficulty of securing ministers from other States was stressed, and it was decided that, in view of the difficulty experienced in finding preachers for Queensland fields, and the loss of Queenslanders to other States, the time has arrived when Queensland should train its own students and have conference arrangements with other States and New Zealand. Messrs. Alcorn, Burdeu, Berlin, Trudgian, Fergusson, Rothery and Greenwood were appointed a committee to investigate a student training scheme. The Home Mission report showed advances into new fields at Murgon and Gladstone.

The Preacher Placement and Advisory Board reported a number of changes in ministers during the past three years, and stressed the need for longer pastorates.

The Overseas Mission Committee reported that, throughout the Commonwealth, in spite of economic and transport difficulties, giving in this year showed a great improvement over last year. C.E. societies were making an effort to raise £50 towards the cost of a new launch for the New Hebrides. During the year Queensland churches had raised for overseas work the sum of £986.

Social Service Committee reported that Mr. T. A. Fergusson had become the new secretary of the committee, and also of the Christian Fellowship Association. 33 positions had been found for unemployed persons, and many distressed families had been helped.

A well-attended home mission rally was held at night, the speakers being Mrs. Allen Brooke (past president of Women's Conference), whose subject was "Vision of the Kingdom," and Mr. A. J. Fisher, who spoke on "Building for the Kingdom." An offering for home missions was received.

Throughout conference many delightful items were rendered by talented artists.



W. A. C. Wendorf,
President of Conference of Churches of
Christ in Queensland.

Ann-st. chapel was filled to capacity on Sunday afternoon, when the conference sermon was preached by Mr. L. A. Trezise, of Toowoomba, his subject being, "Thine is the Kingdom."

Conference picnic, held at Bishop Island, was attended by a large number and was most enjoyable.

Officers and Committees.

President, Bro. W. A. C. Wendorf.
Vice-president, Bro. L. A. Trezise.
Secretary, Bro. H. G. Payne.
Asst. Secretary, Bro. G. J. Taudevin.
Treasurer, Bro. G. J. Taudevin.
Home Mission Committee.—W. J. Campbell, J. Larsen, A. W. Dellow, C. R. Burdeu, H. E. Greenwood, T. G. H. Westwood.

Overseas Mission Committee.—Miss D. Judge, Miss P. McGuire, Mrs. A. Moore, Mrs. J. Cutler, H. Bimrose, H. Horn, H. Collins, C. Handy, H. W. Hermann.

Youth Committee.—Miss V. Packer, Miss D. Judge, Miss Valentine, R. Cardew, W. J. Finger, H. G. Payne, O. G. Potter, H. E. Greenwood, J. Wiltshire, W. W. McDowell.

Publicity and Literature Committee.—W. J. Campbell, P. C. D. Alcorn, H. G. Payne, T. G. H. Westwood, F. B. Alcorn, H. E. Greenwood, W. W. McDowell.

Preacher Placement and Advisory Board.—J. B. Ash, C. R. Burdeu, H. G. Payne, R. L. Arnold.

Incorporation Board.—W. A. C. Wendorf, A. H. Berlin, F. Oldfield, F. Enchelmaier, C. Woff, W. J. Clothier, W. Rothery, H. W. Hermann.

Social Service Committee.—C. R. Burdeu,

C. Handy, G. J. N. Taudevin, J. Ketelaar, T. Hermann, H. F. Trivett, F. Oldfield, D. Quirke, T. A. Fergusson, Mrs. C. R. Burdeu.

Resolutions.

We, Associated Churches of Christ in Conference assembled—

Re-affirm our loyalty to the Throne, and pray that God will bless the Royal Family in these critical times, and will lead us all into the victory of a Christian peace.

Rejoice at the evidence of increasing interest in the question of Christian union, and the spirit of closer co-operation and fellowship among churches, and declare our unchanging adherence to the New Testament as the basis of union.

Appreciate the action of the authorities in enforcing the existing liquor laws, and respectfully request that no alterations be made without remitting the question to the people.

Again declare ourselves as opposed to the increasing facilities for gambling, believing that sufficient funds can be raised for patriotic and benevolent purposes without an appeal to the gambling spirit, and we urge the government to discontinue the Golden Casket.

Re-affirm our confidence in the College of the Bible, and in the principal and faculty thereof, and send our greetings to the Queensland students.

Commend the work of the committee of the Preacher Provident Fund, and urge every preacher to become a contributor to the endowment fund, and every church and member to contribute to the general account of the fund.

Believe that whatever be the order of the post-war world, no plan which fails to give expression to the principles enunciated by Jesus Christ can lead to satisfactory basis for lasting peace.

Record appreciation of the work of the Temperance League in providing temperance bars in military camps, and strongly affirm opposition to "wet" canteens, believing such to be subversive to the best interests of the Empire, recording the opinion that the introduction of "wet" canteens was not the result of any majority claim of our soldiers.

Women's Conference, Queensland

A WIDELY representative gathering from all parts of Queensland met in conference on Thursday morning, April 10. Mrs. Allen Brooke occupied the chair. The theme of the conference was "Extending the Kingdom."

The committee reported having raised, for all purposes, the sum of £263/4/9, and also that this year they had made a record offering to home missions.

Mrs. Brooke is retiring from the presidency, and the following officers were elected:—President, Mrs. W. A. C. Wendorf; Vice-president, Mrs. T. G. H. Westwood; Secretary, Mrs. Harlen; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Hardencastle; Treasurer, Mrs. Lade.

The various superintendents of the departments of the women's conference were also elected.—T. G. H. Westwood.

SERVICE.

Service is our watchword, service for our King; Service, fruitful service, daily ours to bring. Service for the needy, service for the lost; Self upon the altar, counting not the cost. Service in the homeland, where'er sounds the call;

Sacrificial service, reaching unto all; Service pure, exalted; loyal and unpriced; Loving, loving channels, bearing forth the Christ.

Service o'er the ocean, serving not for gain; Meeting every duty, be it toil or pain; Service that is Christly, giving up to God Every selfish motive; treading where Christ trod.

—Selected.

Women's Conference, N.S.W.

THE 47th annual conference of the N.S.W. women's auxiliary was held at Enmore tabernacle on April 9. The president (Mrs. W. J. Evan Lewis) presided. There was an excellent attendance at both morning and afternoon sessions. Morning devotions were led by Mrs. MacLean, assisted by sisters from Kingsford church. A solo was sung by Mrs. Baker. The leader's subject was "A Threefold Vision."

At opening of business session, the president welcomed delegates and visitors. These included Mrs. Garland, W.A., and Mrs. Nicholson, S.A. A welcome was also given to Mrs. Hunting, and to Bro. W. J. Crossman (president of N.S.W. general conference) who conveyed greetings.

Two life members of the conference—Mrs. Clydesdale and Mrs. Corbitt—were present, and a telegram conveying greetings and love was sent to Mrs. J. Fox, who was unable to attend through illness. The president paid a tribute to these three sisters who are foundation members of the executive.

Miss Marshman, a former president, presided over afternoon session.

Reports of the various committees were presented for adoption by the superintendents. The obituary report was received standing. At the conclusion of the Ashwood House report by the secretary, Miss Ashwood, a greeting was given by the matron, Miss Chapple. A general survey of reports showed a very active interest in all committee work during the year. The special fund for home missions, amounting this year to £150, was a record. In overseas missions, the outstanding achievement was the realisation of the aim to establish a living link on the mission field. We are now represented in India by Mrs. Coventry, to whom a greeting was sent. Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. McCallum were the recipients of appreciation for the success of their efforts, and those of their committees, in the very fine results achieved. Under the capable supervision of Miss Brown and Miss Smith the comforts fund forwarded 4100 completed articles to the Lord Mayor's comforts fund. Appreciation was expressed to all the superintendents and their co-workers for services rendered during the year. Special thanks are due to the catering superintendent (Mrs. Murray) and committee for their efficient and willing service at all auxiliary and brotherhood functions.

Afternoon session was opened with the singing of the national anthem and prayers for the King and Queen and the Empire. The executive report was read, in which mention was made of a scheme evolved for placing British evacuee children. This had to be postponed owing to the cessation of overseas evacuation. Receipts through the general fund amounted to £486/5/9, as shown by the treasurer, Miss Rofe. The president extended a welcome to all, including country delegates and representatives from sister churches, all of whom responded with a greeting. A solo rendered by Miss Lois Bills was much appreciated. Incoming executive officers and superintendents were introduced, and Mrs. McCallum, the new president, in responding asked for continued support and co-operation, and then spoke appreciatively of the capable leadership of Mrs. Evan Lewis, and presented her with two books as a memento of her two terms of office as president. Mrs. Lewis suitably responded and thanked all for loyal support, special reference being made to the work of the past and present secretaries, Mrs. A. Wakeley and Miss Ashwood. In her presidential address on "Go on to Perfection," we were urged not to rest on the laurels of the past year, but to take up the challenge of something that we found hard to do for the Lord and to go on growing.

Mr. F. Hunting, youth director for N.S.W., was special speaker for the afternoon. He gave an excellent address on "My Quest: What is the Supreme Thing in Life?"

We thank all who in any way helped to make the day a success, and also those who have helped during the year.

Executive Officers and Superintendents.

The following were elected:—

President, Mrs. P. D. McCallum; past president, Mrs. W. J. Evan Lewis; vice-presidents, Mrs. Rush and Mrs. Corlett; secretary, Miss Ashwood; recording secretary, Mrs. H. Palmer; treasurer, Miss Rofe; life members, Sisters Fox, Clydesdale and Corbitt.

Superintendents.—Home Missions (in abeyance); Overseas Missions, Mrs. P. D. McCallum; Obituary, Mrs. Budgen; Ashwood House Committee, Mrs. Rush, Mrs. Hall, Miss Elliot, Miss Brown; Newington, Mrs. Crossman; Temperance and Social Service, Mrs. A. Wakeley; Isolated Sisters, Miss Elliot; Prayer Meeting, Mrs. Tompson; Catering, Mrs. Murray; representative on General F.M. Committee; Mrs. McCallum, Miss Rofe and Miss Winks; representatives on Inter-church Council, Mrs. Rush, Mrs. McCallum, Mrs. McLane and Mrs. Palmer.—Mrs. H. B. Palmer, Recording Secretary.

Financial Statements.

The sisters' conference cash statement for the year showed receipts amounting to £375/9/3, the chief items being receipts from catering committee, £22/5/3; Mission Band collections—home missions, £18/3/10, and foreign missions, £18/3/9; living link collections, £136/16/7; H.M. special offering, £145. The balance brought forward from previous year was £110/16/5½, £100 being on loan to H.M. Committee. The expenditure was £463/19/7, and the balance carried forward in general account was £24/6/2. The chief items of expenditure were: living link donation, £155/0/4; H.M. loan, £100, and H.M. special offering, £145.

The Ashwood House statement of receipts and payments showed the following:—Receipts: Balance brought forward, £593/11/3; donations "Id. fund," £74/15/10; other donations, £10/8/3; Ashwood House Business Girls' Auxiliary, £25; Interest, £55/5/-; Reduction of mortgage Boys' Home, £125; Guests' payments, £569/9/3; total, £1453/9/7. Expenditure: House maintenance, £283/5/10; light and fuel, £48/0/11; ground maintenance, £28/5/3; salaries, wages, and sundries, £242/11/4; Aust. Gas-Light Coy. Debentures, £413/2/6; cash on hand, 5/3; balance carried forward, £437/18/6.

Consecration Prayer.

▽

OPEN my eyes, O Lord,
That I may see thy face:
Looking on thee, I see the path
That thou wouldst have me trace.

Open my ears, O Lord,
That I may hear thee speak:
List'ning to thee, I hear the cries
Of all the sad and weak.

Open my lips, O Lord,
That I thy praise may sing:
Telling thy love, may I to thee
Some lonely brother bring.

Open my heart, O Lord,
That thou mayst dwell in me,
For, loving thee, I love mankind,
So sorely needing thee.

Open my heart, O Lord,
Fill me with love and power,
That I may use, in service glad,
Each new and precious hour.

—Alison Verco.

The Family Altar.

J.C.F.P.

TOPIC.—THE PREACHER'S THEME.

Monday, May 5.

AND he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation.—Mark 16: 15.

All Christians should be preachers, publicly or privately, and this is their theme. They have no right to wait for sinners to approach them or attend their services. It is their business to go to them with the glad tidings of salvation.

Reading—Mark 16: 14-20.

Tuesday, May 6.

The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he anointed me to preach good tidings to the poor.—Luke 4: 18.

What a picture for some artist to paint! The Son of God reads the scripture lesson in the synagogue; expounds it, and declares that the reference is to himself, whose mission was to preach the everlasting gospel.

Reading—Luke 4: 14-20.

Wednesday, May 7.

I am not ashamed of the gospel.—Rom. 1: 16.

Yet, in these days, the gospel is rarely heard. Essays upon up-to-date questions or exhortations to Christian living are substituted for the message which is the only power of God unto salvation. The greatest need to-day is a revival of evangelism.

Reading—Romans 1: 8-17.

Thursday, May 8.

I am determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.—1 Cor. 2: 2.

And Paul chose an inexhaustible theme, for when preachers have said all that the scriptures say of Jesus and his work, they will still feel that he is mightier than can be expressed in words, and his love greater than can be comprehended by mortal man.

Reading—1 Cor. 2: 1-5.

Friday, May 9.

Having heard . . . the gospel of your salvation.—Eph. 1: 13.

The gospel, unmixed with Jewish traditions or speculative philosophy, is God's power to salvation. There being no other power, how zealous we should be in ourselves proclaiming the gospel, and assisting others to do likewise at home and abroad.

Reading—Ephesians 1: 3-14.

Saturday, May 10.

Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, of the seed of David, according to my gospel.—2 Tim. 2: 8.

There can be no mistake about the subject matter of Paul's preaching. It is well defined here and in 1 Cor. 15: 1-4. No preacher can go wrong if his sermons are along the line of apostolic messages.

Reading—2 Timothy 2: 1-13.

Sunday, May 11.

For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received.—1 Cor. 15: 3.

From his Lord Paul had received his commission, and the great message he was to pass on to others. We can make no mistake if we choose the same theme. Indeed, if we desire to preach, there is no other.

Readings—Psalm 16; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-19.

Here and There.

Many churches have benefited by the singing of Miss Amelia Scarce. A concert in her honor is being arranged for May 12 at the South Yarra chapel.

Special services in recognition of youth are being conducted in several States, leading up to the annual offering on Sunday, May 4. We trust that there will be a worthy response to the appeals made by the young people's departments.

Bro. O. Fieldus, of Fremantle, W.A., writes: "News has just been received that Bro. Vic. Whelan, formerly of Fremantle and Glen Iris, has successfully completed his medical studies in Edinburgh and will leave for his home State at the first opportunity."

We commend to our readers the appeal on behalf of the new cause at Wollongong, N.S.W., which appears on page 195. On Tuesday we were glad to receive the following telegram from Bro. Corlett: "Hinrichsen-Morris mission Wollongong having much success; Sunday wet and cold, but town hall almost filled; twelve adult decisions, fifty-four to date."

We learn that after a short and happy ministry with Ringwood-Mitcham circuit, Vic., Bro. R. A. Banks, accepting medical advice, has decided to relinquish circuit work. This necessary step is regretted by the churches, as the work shows definite signs of progress. Bro. Banks has accepted an invitation to become the preacher of the church at Doncaster.

Bro. E. C. Hinrichsen writes: "It must be fifty years since Bro. H. G. Harward went to college to prepare for the ministry. Prior to his going he had a workmate. This friend lives in Wollongong, and can remember Bro. Harward's first sermon, 'What will you do with Jesus?' After all these years there is a result. This man and his wife, son and daughter, have decided for Christ in the Wollongong mission. 'Cast thy bread upon the waters; for thou shalt find it after many days.'"

At the request of the Federal Executive in Western Australia, our S.A. Conference Executive has been appointed a Federal Executive to prepare for the next conference in that State. The brethren chosen are as follow:—President, A. L. Read; vice-president, C. Schwab; secretary, A. Anderson; assistant secretary, W. Beiler; treasurer, J. W. Cosh; J. E. Shipway, W. L. Ewers, A. E. Hurren, E. R. Manning, A. G. Hinde, H. R. Taylor. As soon as the new executive is able to meet, the date of the Federal Conference will be decided.

The church at Surrey Hills, Vic., regrets the passing at Easter time of Bro. George Clewett, who for years was Sunday school superintendent and through a long life was sincerely concerned for the welfare of the cause. It is the intention of the church to perpetuate the memory of the late Bro. Screen in a definite way, probably when the new chapel is erected, and an amount of £25 from his executors, which will be devoted to this purpose, is gratefully acknowledged. The work under Bro. Andrews' leadership is being faithfully conducted. One young lad from Bible school was received into fellowship recently.

The Macnaughtan-Barber mission at Devonport, Tas., had fairly good attendances during the past week. Bro. Macnaughtan's addresses were appreciated. On Tuesday a lorry-load of young people came from Ulverstone Methodist Y.P.S.C.E. Bro. and Sister Barber, Sister Street and Sister Howard, Ulverstone, have assisted with messages of song. On Thursday a young woman reconsecrated herself to Christ. On April 27 Bro. Macnaughtan's morning address to the church was helpful. Several visitors were present. Bro. Macnaughtan gave a stirring gospel message at night on "Christian Unity" to a full tent. Sister Barber sang a solo.

A reader sends the following item which appeared in an English paper under the heading "Drink in England": "A calculation made to instruct young people may not be uninteresting to adults. In the Bible there are 66 books. The money spent on drink in Christian England in one year would enable us to place £2,515,151 on each book. On each chapter, which number 1189, could be placed £139,613, and the same sum divided would place £5325 on each verse, which number 31,173. The verses divided into words number 773,746, and on each of these words could be placed not less than £214. The words divided into letters number 3,566,480, and 46 sovereigns could be placed on each letter. So much for drink. But what is spent to spread the gospel?"

At West Preston, Vic., Bro. Wigney has almost completed three years of service with the church. Since the beginning of his ministry the membership has grown from 129 to 169, the amount raised for all purposes from £347 to £580 per year, foreign mission offerings from £19 to £49, home mission from £13 to

PRAY—GIVE—GO.

THREE things the Master hath to do,
And we who serve him here below
And long to see his kingdom come
May pray or give or go.

He needs them all—the open hand,
The willing feet, the praying heart—
To work together and to weave
A threefold cord that shall not part.

Nor shall the giver count his gift
As greater than the worker's deed,
Nor he in turn his service boast
Above the prayers that voice the need.

Not all can go; not all can give
To speed the message on its way,
But young or old, or rich or poor,
Or strong or weak—we all can pray;
Pray that the gold-filled hands may give
To arm the others for the fray;
That those who hear the call may go,
And pray—that other hearts may pray!

—Annie Johnson Flint.

£34. Mainly because of his intense visitation the Bible school has increased from 186 to 215 scholars. The church is greatly indebted to Bro. and Sister Wigney for their spiritual leadership, and at the close of an officers' meeting recently, the officers waited on Bro. Wigney and expressed appreciation of his services in the past, and assured him of their continued co-operation in the future. Sister Jessie Green (superintendent), with the members of J.C.E. society, visited Children's Hospital on a recent Saturday afternoon, and brought joy and cheer to the little sufferers there.

Youth Week in Victoria is in full swing, and some excellent meetings have been held. Of special interest was the youth fellowship tea on Monday, April 28, in Victoria Hall. 310 young people sat down to a delightful meal prepared by the catering committee of the Women's Conference, led by Mrs. Westcott, convener. Happy fellowship was the keynote of the tea hour. Following tea, Bro. Fredk. N. Lee presided over the meeting, and Bro. F. H. Elliott conducted a fine session of song. Musical items were rendered by Miss Ronis Dinwoodie, Bro. Ron. Lang and the West Preston Harmonica Band. In splendid style Miss Jean Fowler and Bro. Ray Fisher led a discussion on the subject, "That girls spend their leisure time more profitably than boys." The closing address was delivered by the Youth Week guest speaker, Dr. Trevor Turner, of Adelaide. The message was thought-provoking and challenging.

We have received a copy of the third annual report of the South Australian branch of the Australian Nurses' Christian Movement. Much good work has been done. The organising secretary, Sister J. M. Clarkson, writes: "May we take this opportunity of asking the special co-operation of the ministers of your churches? We are keen to interest the nurses in the fellowship of the movement early in their training. If the ministers would forward to me the names of those members of their congregation who are engaged in nursing, or who are commencing their training, I should be glad to communicate with them and send news of the movement with an invitation of welcome. We believe this would help bridge the gap which so often occurs with the first break with home and church life. We appreciate the help of your church and the receipt of the 'Australian Christian' at our rest room, and trust that we may be able to minister to more and more of the nurses of your churches in the coming days."

Bro. S. Laney, formerly of Burwood church, N.S.W., who has been in U.S. America for some time, writes from New York under date Mar. 27: "The following may be of interest to many in the church in Australia. At least some, e.g., Bro. Harward and others who were in college in America at the same time he was, would remember Bro. Finis S. Idleman, of the 81st New York church. On March 22 Finis S. Idleman, for 25 years the preacher at 81st St. church, New York, was called home. He had been in indifferent health for some months. He was a gifted man and was highly esteemed in the brotherhood and in this great city. In my opinion the church at 81st St. was built, not around a striking witness for the simplicity of the practices of the early church, but around the fellowship and family atmosphere which was typical of the graciousness of Bro. Idleman and his great ability to bind the members in enduring ties. The 'New York Herald Tribune' of March 23 said: 'A feature of the church is that it has for the past 130 years celebrated the communion every Sunday. Mr. Idleman was active in many interdenominational matters. He was assistant editor of "The Christian Union Quarterly," an officer of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, an executive of the Committee of World Alliance for Friendship through the Churches and the American Tract Society. He had recently completed a biography of Peter Ainslie, described as the leader of the "liberal" branch of the denomination with which Mr. Idleman was identified.'"

Teachers and Leaders, Take Note: LECTURES AND DEMONSTRATIONS,

MONDAYS, MAY 12, 19, 26, JUNE 2.

SWANSTON STREET CHURCH.

May 12, at 8 p.m.—

Subjects:

(a) "The Aim of Religious Education."

A. T. McNaughton, M.A., B.D. (Director of Presbyterian Board of Religious Education).

(b) "The Methods of Religious Education."

Rex. Mathias, M.A. (Chaplain of Wesley College).

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News of the Churches.

TASMANIA.

Tunnel Bay.—Attendances have continued to be good. On Easter Sunday a number of visitors were welcomed. Bro. Thos. Orr, of Launceston, addressed the church, and also preached in the afternoon.

West Hobart.—A week of special meetings for deepening of spiritual life was conducted by Bro. Colin Smith, B.A., late of Abilene College, America. His messages were helpful and inspiring. The services were well supported by members. A young lady from the Bible school was immersed at conclusion of service on April 27, when Bro. Smith gave his final address of the series.

QUEENSLAND.

Monkland.—On April 20 one young man confessed Christ. J.C.E. held a games night in aid of picnic fund on April 22.

Bundaberg.—"A More Excellent Way" was Bro. Larsen's subject at morning service on April 20. At gospel service Bro. Larsen held attention of a large congregation with his earnest address on "From Scepticism to Faith."

Albion.—At evening service on April 27 four young ladies were baptised and two young men confessed their Lord. One sister has donated £105 towards the building fund, wiping off that portion of the debt bearing interest. Bro. Stirling's ministry closes on May 25.

Gympie.—At close of gospel service on Apr. 20, a married couple made the good confession. Bro. Fisher preached, illustrating sermon by use of blackboard. J.C.E. has gained several new members. Y.P.S.C.E. has sent a letter, with photo. and canteen order, to all on active service connected with church and auxiliaries. On April 21 Bro. Fisher visited Goomboorian, giving religious instruction at several schools in the district, and holding a gospel service in local hall.

Roma.—There were splendid meetings on April 20, when Bro. A. Anderson, Federal F.M. secretary, conducted the services. Morning service was an inspiration and the address much enjoyed. Visitors and isolated brothers were present. A young brother recently baptised was given the right hand of fellowship. Bro. Anderson addressed children at Bible school and conducted gospel service at night, which was broadcast. On Monday night there was a very good attendance, when Bro. Anderson showed pictures of work in India and the New Hebrides and explained each scene.

Brisbane (Ann-st.).—Since Bro. Arnold began his ministry on April 6, there have been splendid meetings. Bro. and Sister Arnold have quickly settled down to work. Bro. Arnold's messages have been full of inspiration and very helpful. Sisters' Guild arranged a musical luncheon on April 24 as a special welcome to Sister Arnold. The church was delighted to welcome Sister Collins, from Dulwich, S.A. Various States have been represented frequently by visitors during past weeks. Bro. Arnold's subjects for April 27 were "When Dreams Come True" and "He is Able." 170 broke bread for the day.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Maylands.—On April 13 Bro. Burgin gave the church a powerful address. Bro. Bamford preached at night. On April 18 Bro. W. Ewers, Federal F.M. representative, gave a lantern lecture on work in New Hebrides. 55 were present, including brethren and sisters from Bassendean and Inglewood. On April 20 Bro. T. Banks gave the church an earnest address on "Humility." At gospel service the subject of the evangelist's powerful address was "On this rock I will build my church." Visitors included Bro. and Sister Wilkie Thomson, from S.A. Good meetings were enjoyed for the day. Bible school increase and attendance campaign is going well. Maylands is at present in third place in first division.

Perth.—On morning of April 20 Bro. J. Wiltshire exhorted on "All in to Win." Visitors included Sister Mrs. Fergeus, Gardiner, Vic. At night the "Victory Campaign" began with Bren. J. Wiltshire missionary, E. R. Berry song-leader. A hearty song service and an address on "Our War Aims" marked commencement of this special evangelistic effort.

Kalgoorlie.—During Easter a number of members went to conference at Perth. On morning of April 20 Bro. Riches gave an address on "The Greatest Gift." He also preached at night, and Bro. W. Berridge rendered a solo. On evening of April 21 a public meeting was held in chapel, when Mr. W. H. Rainey, Commonwealth secretary B. & F. Bible Society, gave an inspiring address to a good audience on "My Escape from France." Two senior scholars of school have been received into fellowship following confession and baptism.

Fremantle.—Bro. L. Taylor and Sister Elsie Gibbons were married recently. A coming-of-age party was tendered to Sister Joyce Jeffries. Dorcas and Church Aid Society have commenced a new session with Sister Mrs. Fieldus president. Meetings will be held on alternate Thursdays. The War Comforts Fund, which has raised over £70, held a successful community concert, led by Bro. E. Whelan. Sister Mrs. Peggy Mitchell is improving in health, but remains in hospital. Sisters Mrs. Mitchell, sen., and Mrs. Anderson are debarred by sickness from church attendance. Among visitors have been Bro. and Sister W. Thomson and family, from Glenelg, S.A. Bro. Thomson addressed church on morning of April 13. On Apr. 16 Bro. Will Ewers, representing Federal F.M. Board, visited the church, and there was an encouraging response to his fine lantern talk on work in the New Hebrides.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Berri.—On April 20 Bren. Williams and Chapple conducted services, Bro. Patching being in city. A kitchen evening was tendered Miss Belle Rowan and Mr. Alan Clark on April 21. Special services in connection with Youth Week were held on April 27. A Bible school rally was held in afternoon, and Bible school choir assisted at gospel meeting. Solos were rendered by Ron. Jeansch and Norris Baily.

Fullarton.—On April 20 the morning message on "Love" by Bro. Rankine was very helpful, and at gospel service the topic, "God's Dealings with the Jews," proved most instructive. At a good morning meeting on April 27 Bro. Durbin, of York, gave an address on our responsibility to the young people. At gospel meeting Bro. Rankine's first of two Sunday night addresses on "Revelation" was inspiring. Over 60 members and friends were present. Sound doctrine is enjoyed by those who attend week-night services.

Queenstown.—Sunday school anniversary was held on April 6, the building being filled at each service. In morning Bro. Oram, from Semaphore, gave the address. Bro. Collins spoke to scholars and parents in the afternoon. Bro. S. E. Mathews, from Flinders Park, gave an interesting object talk at night. The scholars at each service rendered good singing under leadership of Bro. G. Cox. On April 13 Bro. J. Hall exhorted the church. The gospel was preached by Bro. Brooker, whom all were pleased to see back after long enforced absence. On April 20 Bro. A. Foote exhorted the church, and at night Bro. Brooker preached on "The Ruler who came to Jesus by Night." On Easter Monday the Sunday school picnic was held at Salisbury Oval. At Ladies' Sewing Guild on April 8 much sewing was done and a good number attended. Our aged Sister Martin passed away on April 7, and was buried on 9th at Cheltenham Cemetery. She had been a faithful member for about 33 years. Sympathy goes out to those bereaved.

Glenelg.—On April 5 Bro. Hubert Pascoe and Miss Mavis Norris were united in marriage. An Easter play entitled "His Mother" was presented by members of Bible school, offering being donated to Children's Hospital. At gospel service on April 6, David Sharp, an evacuee, made the good confession. The choir rendered Stainer's "Crucifixion."

Adelaide (Grote-st.).—Bro. Hurren spoke at both services on April 27. In the morning he gave a splendid exhortation on "Unfailing Love." After a soul-stirring sermon on "Behold, I stand at the door and knock," two women and a youth made the decision for Christ. At close of evening service two who had previously confessed Christ were immersed.

Hindmarsh.—On April 27 there was a fairly good attendance when Bro. Chas. Schwab, of Prospect, was speaker in interests of Bible School Department annual offering, his topic being "Taking the Long View." At evening service Bro. A. J. Ingham preached and Miss Lorna Goodall sang a solo. Sister Mrs. D. Price has been called to higher service.

Murray Bridge.—Meetings continue well. On April 23 Sister Mrs. Wm. Morrow (Adelaide) addressed 35 ladies of guild and friends, over which Sister N. G. Noble presided, and addressed a record attendance of Murray Bridge Red Cross Society. Her messages were appreciated by church and public. Bro. Douglas Fitzgerald, of Tailem Bend, conducted splendid services throughout April 27. Soloist, Sister Keith Davis. Bro. Noble reports a responsive chaplaincy in Woodside military camp.

Forestville.—Bro. H. P. Manning, of Cottonville, addressed members on April 27 in connection with Bible School Day appeal. Bro. Theo. Edwards conducted the Anzac service at Clarence Park hall for third year in succession. Annual meeting of Dorcas society was held on April 23. Mrs. Garfield Rootes, president-elect of sisters' conference, was speaker. Mrs. D. Wakeley gave appropriate messages in song. During the month an offering of £3/10/- was received from the church in aid of British air raid victims.

Edwardstown West.—On April 27 the first Bible school anniversary was a great success. At morning service, after a roll call of officers and teachers, Bro. Nankivell commended and exhorted them, offered a dedicatory prayer, and gave a fine address on "Religious Education." Teachers performed all duties at this service. In the afternoon, with 108 scholars and teachers on the platform and 123 in the audience, the school sang special hymns, and Bro. H. P. Manning gave an instructive address. At night the school sang to an audience of 110, and Bro. Albert Brown preached the gospel.

Unley.—Bible school anniversary services on April 27 were remarkably impressive and pleasing. Bro. F. Collins (Dulwich) conducted teachers' recognition service, and delivered eloquent charge and exhortation. Afternoon meeting was overcrowded, when the cantata, "David the Shepherd Boy," was rendered by school choir and orchestra under Bro. P. B. Wood, Mus.Bac. Offering for school, £8/16/-. Gallery was again filled with children in evening, when Bro. Nankivell spoke appealingly on Christ's love and regard for children. On April 16 Dr. Chas. Duguid gave an informative lecture, well illustrated, on aborigines and Ernabella Mission. Preparations are going forward for a "Recall to Religion Mission," to be conducted by Principal Seambler and students from College of the Bible.

VICTORIA.

Dimboola.—On April 6 Bro. C. Jaekel was preacher. At close of his address a man and wife made the confession. They were baptised at Horsham on April 20.

Ballarat (York-st.).—Delightful meetings characterised three services on April 27. Bren. Jones (morning), Taylor (afternoon) and Lee (evening) addressed largely attended gatherings in support of youth movement. Evening soloist was Mr. Leviston. New carpet for school hall has been provided by Ladies' Guild at cost exceeding £7.

Portland.—On April 27 Bro. Stevenson gave a very helpful address. A number of members were absent through sickness. Bible school has gained an additional eight scholars.

Hampton.—On morning of April 27 Bro. A. B. Withers, of Brighton, spoke on youth work. A baptismal service was conducted at night. Bro. Stephenson preaching. Miss Lang was soloist.

Kaniya.—Bro. Howard Earle has accepted a call to be evangelist in succession to Bro. Stewart. Bright singing, good attendances and helpful addresses marked Bible school anniversary services on April 27.

Melbourne (Swanston-st.).—On April 27 Bro. Hughes preached morning and evening. Several visitors were present. After evening service a social hour was spent and refreshments were served, after which Bro. Hughes showed some excellent travel pictures.

Preston.—Bro. W. T. Atkin, of Northcote, gave an inspiring message, with special reference to Youth Department work, at morning service on April 27. At close of Bro. Robinson's gospel address a young girl from the Bible school made the good confession.

Doncaster.—Bro. Connor and Bro. Patterson made an exchange on morning of April 27 in connection with Youth Week. Women's Mission Band commenced the session on April 24. Bro. R. A. Banks has accepted an engagement to labor with the church as successor to Bro. A. W. Connor.

Castlemaine.—"Spiritual Gifts" was the theme of Bro. Curtis at morning service on April 27. Evening service was conducted by Bro. H. Peeler, when a young lady confessed Christ. The church has released Bro. Curtis for alternate Sunday evenings to assist at some special gospel meetings at Harcourt.

South Yarra.—April 27 was Bro. Candy's last Sunday with the church. He has accepted a call to East Kew. He spoke at both morning and evening services. A youth tea was held on April 27, speaker being Dr. Turner. After evening service a farewell was given to Bro. and Sister Candy by the members of the church.

Horsham.—On Easter Sunday Bren. J. Butler and F. J. Sheriff were speakers in absence of Bro. C. Jackel at Bordertown. On April 20, after gospel service, a man and his wife, from Dimboola, were baptised. Bren. G. Miller and F. J. Sheriff were speakers at services on April 27. Bro. C. Jackel conducted services at Hamilton.

Essendon.—At morning service on April 27 Bro. Methven, from Prahran, gave an inspiring message in support of youth. At night an Anzac service was conducted. Bro. A. E. Illingworth gave an interesting discourse on "The Cost of the New World." Mrs. and Miss A. Hitch rendered a duet. Football club members attended in a body.

Berwick.—Miss J. Funston was married on April 19 to Mr. S. H. Wilson, of Canley Vale, N.S.W. Sunday, 27th, was harvest thanksgiving. A collection was taken up in the evening for the Oakleigh Guest Home. Bro. Pike spoke at both services, his morning theme being "Good Without God." The young people's club is carrying on well, with good attendances.

Mildura.—Bro. A. Mansell was speaker on morning of April 27; subject, "God Answers Our Prayers." Gospel service was in charge of young people, Bro. John Leng officiating. A message entitled "Loyalty to Christ" was brought by Bren. Whit, Neville and Gordon Chislett. From May 4, the gospel service will commence at 7 p.m. instead of 7.30 p.m.

Brim.—On "Decision Day," April 13, a mother and her two daughters made the good confession at close of a very earnest illustrated address by Bro. H. Edwards. On April 2 the three were baptised before a large congregation, who listened to a stirring address by Bro. Edwards on "The Relationship of Baptism to the Plan of Salvation." On April 27 Bro. Edwards conducted the worship service, when the new members were received into fellowship. The Sunday school remains in a good condition. Mission Band and Guild have re-opened meetings with a fine attendance.

Minyip.—Recently a thankoffering of £8/10/- was taken up. On April 6 Bro. Rodda, from Geelong, presided. Meetings have been smaller owing to departure of several members. Visitors were welcomed on April 13 and 20. At annual business meeting all officers were re-elected with exception of Bro. J. Blake, who has left the district. All auxiliary financial reports showed a credit balance.

Collingwood.—On April 23 Mr. F. A. Crawshaw delivered a lecture, with aid of moving pictures, on work for the lepers. On morning of Apr. 27 Mr. T. Fitzgerald spoke on "Christian Life in Relation to the War." In the evening young people conducted. Miss A. Wimpney rendered a very fine solo, and Mr. T. Fitzgerald spoke inspiring on "What Christ Means to Me." All meetings were well attended.

Ormond.—On April 23, at prayer meeting, Bro. C. L. Lang gave a good message on "Which Sheep is Black?" On April 27 Bro. H. M. Clipstone, of Bambra-rd., gave the church a helpful address on "Youth." At gospel service Bro. C. L. Lang preached on "The Folk who Met Jesus," illustrated with lantern slides. Bro. Ron. Lang sang a solo. A lady who confessed Christ the previous Sunday was baptised.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—Youth Week opened with well-attended meetings. At morning service Bro. Baker spoke on "Convoys of Youth." In the evening Dr. Turner, of S.A., preached on "The Same Jesus." Representatives of youth leaders in the church assisted. Bro. Ennis addressed a good afternoon gathering on "Spectacular Religion." The class has prepared 11 parcels for boys of the church overseas.

Middle Park.—A combined prayer meeting of South Central circuit was held on April 23, when Bro. Candy delivered a splendid address. The boys' club held a successful social on April 26. A youth service was held on April 27, when young men of the church took active part. Sister Mrs. Gove rendered two beautiful solos. Special reference was made to Anzac Day. Bro. McCullough's services are appreciated.

Thornbury.—Splendid meetings were held on April 27. Mr. Hatley, Methodist minister, gave a very interesting address on "Things that are Certain." In the evening, at a great youth service, members of cricket team led meeting. Bro. Searle gave a stirring address on "The Game of Life." A youth council has been formed to co-ordinate and encourage youth activities of the church. Explorers' Club is growing under leadership of Bro. H. Hince.

Prahran.—An impressive service was held when the King called his people to prayer. Bro. J. Methven spoke at both services. The following Sunday young people conducted evening service, two giving testimonies and others assisting. Jack Hall has decided for Christ. "Happy Hour" for children of Prahran recommenced on April 19, almost 50 children being present. All auxiliaries are now functioning. Attendances at meetings for Bible study and prayer are increasing.

Malvern-Caulfield.—Young people's day was celebrated on April 27 with splendidly attended services. Mr. R. Morris, representing Youth Committee, spoke at morning meeting; three were received into fellowship. Subject at gospel service was "The Christian, Past, Present, Future," and speakers were P. Retchford, J. Bond and F. E. Buckingham. Alan Brown was soloist. There was one decision, and one was baptised. The contractor has begun work on hall and new kinder room.

Yarrawonga.—During Bro. Pittman's absence at conference, Bren. Cowper and Houghton addressed the church. A number of visitors were present. On April 22 Bro. Pittman gave an outline of outstanding features of conference. S.S. anniversary was held on April 27, when the children delighted all with their singing. In the afternoon Mrs. Pittman interested all with her talk on "Courage," illustrated with stories from India. At night Bro. Pittman gave a fine talk on "Give Me this Mountain." On Tuesday the tea and concert with distribution of prizes took place, and Mr. Crawshaw gave a lantern lecture on "Lepers of India."

Gardiner.—Bro. J. E. Shipway, S.A. conference president, exhorted the church on Easter Sunday. On April 27 there were large congregations for commencement of Youth Week. Dr. Trevor Turner, of Adelaide, gave a splendid address at morning service, and at gospel meeting Chaplain J. K. Martin was speaker. Bro. Hagger is at Drumcondra church for a week of special meetings for deepening of spiritual life. Bro. and Sister A. R. Main have gone to Burwood, N.S.W., to assist the church there pending arrival of the new preacher.

Dunolly.—At gospel service on Easter Sunday, members of Sunshine Club rendered "The Old Rugged Cross." Bro. Johnson gave addresses to large congregations. Prior to her marriage with Bro. Ray Scott, Sister Bessie Willcox was tendered a kitchen tea. A presentation was also made by church and auxiliaries. Many visitors had fellowship with the church on April 27. As a commencement to Youth Week senior Endeavorers conducted gospel meeting, Bro. Jack Sewell leading. Sisters Gwen and Joyce Scott rendered a duet; Bro. Johnson gave an appropriate address to a congregation of 45.

Moreland.—Annual business meeting was held on April 24. Excellent progress was reported. Net increase in membership was 30. Average attendances at Lord's Table were 192, gospel service 164, being best for many years. Offerings for local work improved by over £100, while offerings for others nearly doubled. Bible school and auxiliaries also reported considerable progress in attendances and membership. Bro. Spencer Hocking was appointed a deacon, and retiring officers were re-elected. Special mention was made of the capable leadership of Bro. Graham. On April 27 Bro. G. J. Andrews, of Surrey Hills, brought to the church a helpful message on young people.

Footscray.—Attendances are encouraging. Y.W. League has been reorganised with Sister Miss Daphne Pearce convener. On April 20 a baptismal service was held, and a young woman made the good confession. A Sunday evening song service has been commenced under leadership of choirmaster Bro. C. Swallow. The church roll is under revision. Ladies' Aid held a successful outing at Black Rock, 35 attending. Bro. and Sister Ritchie have made visits to Tottenham and Yarraville Sunday schools connected with the church. Kindergarten room has been renovated, and church grounds cleared. On April 13 the junior cricket club of York-st., Ballarat, church, was present.

Ballarat (Dawson-st.).—Well-attended Anzac service was held in chapel on April 25, under auspices of Council of Churches. Deputation from Y.P. Department visited on April 27. Bro. F. N. Lee spoke at morning meeting and Bro. K. A. Jones at Bible class. A special service for young men was conducted at night, a challenging message being given by Bro. Cliff G. Taylor. At Doveton-st. Bro. B. Huntsman gave morning message, and at night Bro. J. A. Wilkie concluded his series. Bro. E. Davey conducted morning meeting at Mt. Clear. Bro. Geoff. Reed has been appointed superintendent at Mt. Clear, and will conduct work in co-operation with Sister Florence Horbury. School secretary, Bro. H. Reed, has three months' leave of absence for camp. Bro. Neil Reed has been appointed interim secretary. At Doveton-st. Bro. E. Steele has been appointed minute secretary of advisory board and Bro. C. Hill president of board and secretary of church.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Enmore.—There were average attendances on April 20. Messages were on "The Greatest Thing" and "Those whose Dear Ones have Gone." War work and other national duties hinder many in attendance and service.

Mayfield.—First anniversary services of Bible school were held on April 6. Bro. F. C. Hunting was speaker at afternoon meeting, and Bro. R. M. Wilson gave the message at night. Special singing by scholars was enjoyed at both services. On April 12 Bro. Wilson officiated at the wedding of Sister Miss Mary Mackie to Bro. R. Johnson.

Burwood.—Bro. F. Hunting addressed morning and evening meetings on Easter Sunday. Bro. Sutton was morning speaker on April 20, and Bro. C. Thompson addressed evening service. Good meetings on April 27 marked commencement of Bro. A. R. Main's interim ministry. Miss Nell Stowe has returned home from hospital.

Georgetown.—On morning of April 27, Bro. Campbell gave a helpful address. Bro. Marjoribanks gave a powerful gospel message at night. Bro. Amos is at present on holiday. A convert from the mission, Bro. K. Pickard, was recently baptised and received into fellowship. Fifteen members from Georgetown attended conference at Sydney.

Paddington.—Good attendance at breaking of bread on April 27. One sister was received into fellowship. Bro. Greenhalgh spoke on "Positive Living." There was a number of visitors. Good attendance at Bible school. C.E. has arranged an interesting programme for quarter. To a good attendance at gospel service Bro. Greenhalgh gave a forceful message on "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Inverell.—The church has enjoyed fellowship with Sister Mrs. Johnson (Brisbane) and other visitors. On April 6, after a splendid address by Bro. Jenner, a senior scholar confessed Christ, and with another from Goonooowiggal Bible school was immersed. Sister Una Morris, who for seven years has served faithfully as church treasurer, was recipient of gifts from church and Sisters' Guild prior to departure for her new home in Urunga. Bro. Alfred Winter is the new church treasurer. Bro. Jenner is serving as chaplain for two months at East Greta military camp, and services are maintained by local brethren during his absence.

Open Forum

FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS.

THE PLACE OF THE DEAD.

UNDER a rather striking caption: "A Message from Hell," Bro. H. J. Patterson, in the "Australian Christian" of April 16, dealt with Luke 16: 19-31. Without, I hope, giving the appearance of criticising his article, which contained many interesting and helpful thoughts, may I be permitted the following observations?

1. The story, though often referred to to-day as the "parable" of the rich man and Lazarus, is nowhere in the Bible said to be a parable. While this does not prove that it was not so, the point is more significant when we remember that Jesus actually named one of the characters in the story—a thing which is done in no parable in the whole of the Bible. Is it not possible that both Lazarus and the rich man had lived, and under circumstances such as Jesus here described?

2. The rich man was not actually in hell—the hell of eternal punishment. The Greek word used is that transliterated "Hades," and refers to the unseen world of the dead. Lazarus, the godly man, was also in this unseen world, though, of course, in the paradise section separated by the "great gulf" from that in which was the rich man. Acts 2: 27, 31 indicates that, at his death, the soul of Jesus descended to this same unseen world, i.e., to the paradise section of Hades, as Luke 23: 43 shows. From the experience of Paul, as described in 2 Cor. 12: 2, 4, it would appear that paradise is now in the heavens to which it was removed, perhaps at the time of Christ's ascension (Eph. 4: 8-10). The saved now pass at death into the immediate presence of Christ (Phil. 1: 23; 2 Cor. 5: 8), where they await the resurrection of the body (Rom. 8: 11, 23; Phil. 3: 20, 21) at the return of Christ (1 Thess. 4: 14, 16).—K. A. Macnaughtan.

ADDRESSES.

V. S. Dallenger (preacher Maryborough church, Qld.).—80 Churchill-st., Maryborough.
Miss L. Rometch (secretary Victorian Women's Conference).—1 Elizabeth-st., Hawthorn, E.2.

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COMING EVENTS.

MAY 12 (Monday).—Complimentary concert to Miss Amelia Scarce, South Yarra church, Cliff-st.; programme by Ladies' Choir and leading artists. All interested friends please book this date.

MAY 25.—Newmarket Church of Christ Bible school anniversary will be held in the church on May 25. Speakers: 3 p.m., Mr. A. A. Hughes; 7 p.m. Mr. Mack Sandland. Welcome to all.

JUNE 1.—Cheltenham (Vic.) 84th church anniversary. 11 a.m., Mr. T. Hagger; 3 p.m., Bible school reunion; 7 p.m., Mr. J. E. Allan, President of Conference. Past members and friends invited home to these reunion meetings.—F. E. J. Smith, sec.

BOX HILL CHURCH OF CHRIST, THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY SERVICES. SUNDAY, MAY 4.

11 a.m., Mr. A. L. Gibson.
7 p.m., Mr. H. A. G. Clark, M.A., B.D.

Special music by the Meistersingers

Male Choir. Thanksgiving offering.

Wednesday Night, 8 p.m., Anniversary Service.

Speakers, Mr. J. E. Allan, Conference President; Mrs. H. C. Bischoff, President Sisters' Conference.

Musical programme. Come and enjoy a devotional and social evening. All welcome.

LYGON STREET NEW CENTURY BIBLE CLASS. FOURTH ANNIVERSARY. SUNDAY, MAY 4.

Two Special Services:

3 p.m., B. A. Rogers (preacher of Ivanhoe Baptist Church).

Soloist, Miss Ella Johnson.

Orchestra.

7 p.m., S. Russell Baker.

Soloist, Mr. Thomas Cuddy.

A great reunion of members and friends of present and former Bible Class. All friends and visitors to be guests of Class to tea at 5 p.m.

GORE ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST, FITZROY. SPECIAL MONTH OF MEETINGS FOR MAY.

May 4—Youth Day.

May 11—Mother's Day. Special gift to oldest and youngest mother present.

May 18—Cricket Club Service.

May 25—J.C.E. Anniversary.

Plan to be present.

Old "Tab." members specially welcomed.

BRUNSWICK BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.

May 4—11 a.m., W. Robb; 3 p.m., J. E. Thomas; 7 p.m., A. E. White.

Tea provided for visitors.

Children's Demonstration, Wednesday, May 7.

CAULFIELD CHURCH OF CHRIST, CELEBRATING 21st ANNIVERSARY.

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GREAT OPENING DAY, SUNDAY, MAY 18.

Three Inspiring Services, Morning,
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Monday, May 19, great Back to Treat Night. Anniversary banquet and public welcome. Old members' reminiscences and musical festival.

Inspiring Youth Night, May 20. Special programme. Theme, "The Greatest Challenge."

Commencing May 21, Special Meetings for Deepening of Spiritual Life.

Continuing to June 2 (Saturdays Excepted). Inspiring singing, challenging messages.

Chas. Schwab, of Adelaide, will be our guest speaker throughout special effort.

If coming to Banquet and Treat Night kindly notify not later than May 12—Joint organisers, C. Smith, W. A. Brown, 3 Newlyn-st., Caulfield. Phone, LF 5222.

MORELAND CHURCH ANNIVERSARY. SUNDAY, MAY 18.

11 a.m., H. J. Patterson.
7 p.m., W. G. Graham.

Former members specially invited to renew old acquaintances and meet the new members of Moreland.

Everybody welcome!

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NEW ISLAND LAUNCH.

WHILST conferences were in session, a cable was received from Bro. D. Hammer stating that he was taking over Bro. F. Purdy's launch. Owing to trade in the islands being almost at a stand-still, Bro. Purdy decided to sell his launch, and offered it to the Board for £300. This launch was especially built for such service, is only a few years old, and well cared for. As the weather is now suitable for using a launch, it will be a great asset that this equipment is already to hand. For months past Bro. Hammer has not been able to visit either of the other islands—Pentecost and Maewo—and in addition, since sailings from Australia are irregular and all ships do not touch Aoba, provision must be made at times to visit Santo for stores and mails. All such trips entail open sea work, and a good launch is essential.

The Board are now hopeful that Bro. Hammer will be able to do all essential visitation before the bad weather commences.

Seeing that the boat that brought Bro. Hammer's word regarding Bro. Purdy's offer was the one on which Miss Clipstone sailed, we can assume that our latest worker has reached her destination safely.

Now we are assured that Bro. Hammer is taking over this launch, we are in a position to make a definite announcement regarding the cost.

Launch	£300
Dinghy	16
Other Items .. .	34
Total Cost ..	£350

Endeavorers throughout Australia have already been busy, and many donations are to hand. Now that the launch is being used, we trust that the necessary money will soon come to hand so that a settlement can be made.

NEW INDIAN BUDGET.

MISS VAWSER, our treasurer on the Indian field, has just forwarded the budget for April 1, 1941-March, 1942. The heavier costs in India, the wider evangelistic efforts now in progress, and the additional family (Bro. and Sister H. R. Coventry) on the field shows an increase of £700 over the estimates for the past year. Thus we will be faced by heavier sacrifices in the coming days. We will have to maintain our giving of last year, particularly during the offering period, to meet these increasing costs.

DHOND NEWS.

DURING this month the missionaries have had to part with all the children of school age. Bill and Ron Oldfield went to school on the 15th, and on the 17th Rona and Ray Bolduan and Muriel and Janet Coventry went to the school. The children are all being missed very much. The Bolduans are in camp about twelve miles away, so one day I went along to visit them. The day before was market day in the village where they were camped, and the farmers had come with numerous requests for Mr. Bolduan and the preachers to visit them at their farms to hold meetings. In this way meetings were arranged for seven nights. The people are certainly friendly and seem anxious to hear the "good news." The ground is being prepared and the seed sown, and some day will come the time of reaping.

Monoramabai and Serubai have both written to me. Monoramabai has a son eight months old. Shevantibai also has a son four months old. In June or July I will be able to give you news of Serubai. Less than two years ago

these three were our nurses here at Dhond. We are once more looking for nurses, as one who had only been here six months has left for midwifery training, and another leaves next month. Fortunately, our best nurse, Prabhawatibai, is to stay on with us. I wouldn't like to lose her—she is a real treasure.

At last our church at Dhond is being built. We have made shift for so long that I can hardly realise that at last we are going to have a building where we can meet in comfort without interruption.—Lynda Foreman.

AN OUTCASTE SPEAKS.

WE are indebted to Bro. R. Bolduan for the following article on our Dhoraja preacher. In view of the fact that there are upwards of 70,000,000 untouchables in India, thousands of whom are throwing off the shackles of Hinduism, the article is particularly appropriate. This preacher, Madhavrao Bhalerao, always has a fine hearing amongst his own group. The article is practically a verbatim report of the preacher's own words:—

"I was born an outcaste. I was despised by the high caste people. They would not come near me, and I was not allowed to approach them. In times of trouble, not one of them would help me. I found that the only people ready to help anyone were these Christian people. They talked about the love of God, and showed me what the love of God could do. It was this love that drew me, and in time I became a Christian. And the result? I found myself to be a new man. I began to tell others that I was now a different man. What is more, they believed me. High caste people will come and sit in my house. They will invite me into their homes. In times of trouble they come to me because they know what Christ has done for me."

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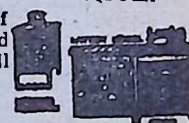
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Obituary.

Mrs. Eliza Hannah Bullock.

ON April 7 Mrs. Eliza Hannah Bullock was called to higher service, at the age of 87 years. Our sister was a foundation member of Glenlyon-rd. church, Brunswick, Vic., and for many years was an honored member at Moreland. Impaired health prevented her from attending the meetings, but her hands were never idle. Her dominating passion was for others. She regularly supported the work of church and Women's Guild. She was an exceptionally keen student of the Word. She had learned to trust God as a Father, and rejoiced in the assurance of going home. Her life was an inspiration to all who knew her. She ministered to all who visited her. She was an ideal mother, and her children rise up and call her blessed. We thank God for every remembrance of such a beautiful and useful life, and rejoice with all the loved ones in the knowledge that the path of the righteous shineth more and more unto the perfect day.—W.G.G.

Queensland News-letter.

H. G. Payne.

About Preachers.

ANDERSON (Federal F.M. secretary) was the guest speaker at the preachers' session of conference, when he gave an able address on "Far Eastern Conflicts," dealing with Indo-China and her neighbors. R. L. Arnold was welcomed at this gathering, not only as the preacher of Ann-st., but as a brother beloved. A. J. Fisher was welcomed back to the fraternal after an absence of 14 years. He was referred to as "the prodigal," and raised the point as to which is the far country, Victoria or Queensland. It being in the far country that the prodigal fed swine, the point was left undecided rather than annoy the Victorians. The occasion was utilised to say farewell to D. R. Stirling, who will leave for Wollongong, N.S.W., in six weeks' time. Expression of enjoyment of his fellowship and regret at his going were made.

Politics and Police.

The elections have come and gone, with a few changes which have not affected the government's secure position. The temperance question came into the campaign, the Premier not giving a definite reply, making clear beyond doubt his intentions regarding liquor laws despite pressure from the press. At a meeting in which he was speaking in aid of a candidate, two men who asked questions (including some on the liquor question), in a perfectly orderly and regular manner, were afterwards asked by detectives for their names and addresses. Officialdom denied all connection with their action, but, as the "Telegraph" said, "Is it to be assumed that the police acted upon their own initiative in such an unusual and uncalled-for direction? It is unfortunate, too, that this incident is associated with a firm refusal on the part of the Premier to make clear and unequivocal the Labor intentions regarding future regulation of the liquor trade." The candidate, a sitting member whom the Premier was supporting, lost his seat.

The Protestant question was represented by one Protestant Labor candidate who was defeated, and a former Protestant candidate was defeated as an Independent. Protestantism had no prominence in the election; in fact, the wave of political and economic "Protestantism" is going out on the ebb tide—which is to be expected of any movement of that name not based on personal Christianity.

Prayer.

Day of Prayer on March 23. This ruffled gently the consciousness of the general public and stirred but little more the surface of church life, if one may judge by outward evidence. The Anzac Square (Brisbane) midday open-air services in Easter week attracted good

audiences, but the absence of interested young people was noticeable.

A Procession of Witness

is held every year on Good Friday by the Church of England, the 35th of these being held this year, when 1500 people marched in the procession through the streets of the city to King's Square, where 8000 took part in an open-air service, which was followed by a meeting in the City Hall.

Tasmanian Women's Conference.

THE women's thirty-first State auxiliary annual conference was held in Collins-st. chapel, Hobart, on April 10. Devotions were led by Mrs. A. Madel-Cole, who has entered upon her sixth year as president. Roll-call of churches was responded to by Kellevie, West Hobart, Margaret-st., Invermay, Geeveston and Collins-st. Greetings were received from executive of general conference, Tasmania; College of Bible, Victoria; women's conference auxiliaries, N.S.W., S.A., W.A., Qld., Vic. and from India, Sister Tease (vice-pres.), Dover sisters, Matron Skirving, Mrs. Sulzberger, Mrs. Morgan.

The subject of the president's address was "The Sure Hope of the Christian." Welcome to delegates and visitors was extended by Mrs. Madel-Cole, to which Mrs. Harry Kingston responded. Bro. Macnaughtan, of Geelong, Vic., addressed the gathering on "The Hole in the Hedge." Items greatly appreciated were: Vocal, Mrs. Chancellor; elocutionary, Mrs. Staples; pianoforte, Mrs. Johnson.

Receipts for the year: Home Mission, £68; Overseas Mission, £49; College of the Bible, £3; Home Mission special funds amounted to £62.

Obituary Report.—Six letters written; one letter of appreciation received.

Reports of all auxiliaries show progressive work. In addition to donations of clothing and funds to City Mission, the Australian Comforts Fund is receiving good support by sewing classes.

Officers elected.—President, Mrs. Madel-Cole; vice-presidents, Mrs. Tease (South); Mrs. Gibson (North); secretary, Mrs. M. F. Taylor; record secretary, Miss G. Dixon; treasurer, Mrs. N. Warmbrunn; superintendents: Dorcas, Mrs. Morgan; Hospital Visitation, Mrs. Bowes; Foreign Mission, Mrs. Sulzberger; Temperance, Mrs. Warmbrunn; Mission Bands, Mrs. Boxhall; Prayer Meetings, Mrs. Hurd; Devotions, Mrs. H. Kingston; Obituary, Mrs. Watkins.

The president expressed appreciation for the services rendered by Mrs. Libby, who graciously took over Dorcas superintendent's work during the year.

New year resolution: That we work as one, north, south, east and west, for the cause of Christ.

Incoming officers were inducted by Mrs. Warmbrunn. Mrs. Gibson proposed a vote of thanks. For unstinted help given by the treasurer, recording secretary, superintendents and other valuable helpers, also to the editor for space accorded in the "Christian," sincere thanks are extended.—Mrs. M. F. Taylor, secty.

PREACHERS' PROVIDENT FUND.

With which is incorporated the Aged and Infirm Evangelists' Trust. Established by the Federal Conference of the Churches of Christ in Australia.

Members of Committee: T. E. Rofe (Chairman), H. E. Bell, J. Crawford, C. Graham, F. S. Steer, Dr. C. A. Verco, W. H. Hall (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer). Representative in Victoria: W. Gale, T. & G. Building, 145 Collins St., Melbourne, C.I. Representative in South Australia: General S. Price Weir, 2nd Avenue, East Adelaide. Representative in Western Australia: Roy Raymond, 200 Bagot Rd., Subiaco.

The Objects of the Fund are: 1st. To assist financially Aged and Infirm and Retired Preachers.

2nd. To control and manage an Endowment Fund to which Preachers may contribute.

In order to do this effectively, the Committee needs the practical sympathy and support of all the churches and brethren throughout the Commonwealth.

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"WILT thou not from this time cry unto me,
My father, thou art the guide of my
youth."—Jeremiah 3: 4.

○

Eternal Father, thou knowest the strength
and the weakness, the wisdom and folly, the
faith and infidelity of youthful hearts, and in
the name of our Lord Jesus Christ we come
unto thee. Lead us, we pray, into Christ's vic-
tory of righteousness, so that we may become
in very truth the new personalities for the
new world order; so that we may be manifestly
the sons and daughters of God for whom the
world waits. For thy name's sake. Amen.

○

Most gracious God, who art ever desiring
that the new generations shall be righteous and
free, rising above what has been out-moded or
wrecked by sin; we would seek with thee, the
deliverance of all fresh young hearts from the
dispiriting prospect of things as they are, and
assure the spread of the inspiring vision of
things that are possible with thee. Shape
and speed on, O Father, such Christian leadership
as will claim modern youth for the Eternal
kingdom. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

THOUGHT.

*It is easier to make an impression
upon sand than upon marble; but it
is easier to make a just one upon
marble than upon sand.—W. S. Landor.*

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